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# CLIMBERS FALL SHORT OF RECORD

## 'Indoor Everest' attempt wall too small

ROCK climbers David Taylor and Graham Ford confirmed last night their record attempt for charity had failed.

The pair spent 20 hours scaling the indoor climbing wall at Bluewater shopping centre a staggering 885 times to match the height of Everest.

But they believed the wall was 10 metres high – in fact it is just six metres. It meant their record fell short by more than 3,500 metres and they would have had to scale it another 590 times to get the Guinness World Record for indoor climbing in the fastest time.

**EXCLUSIVE**

BY LAUREN MUMFORD

The two men climbed for 10 hours on Thursday and 10 hours on Friday – and celebrated when they thought they had reached the 8,848 metre target.

But when record attempt assessors measured the wall they found it was only six metres high – bringing the celebrations to an abrupt end.

A Guinness World Records spokesman said: "David and Graham indeed made the correct application and received all the information they needed to make their record attempt

by Guinness World Records.

"However, it's very unfortunate to hear they did not follow the minimum 10 metre wall guideline.

"We're sorry to hear that the attempt was not successful, but they are more than welcome to reapply for the record and attempt it once again following the correct regulations."

Mr Taylor, 22 and Mr Ford, 26, both from Maidstone, had come up with the attempt to collect money for the national disability charity Scope.

A spokeswoman for the charity said: "David and Graham did fantastically well on the day and they raised hundreds of pounds for Scope, which

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



ONLY WAY IS UP: Graham Ford and David Taylor on the wall at Bluewater Picture PHIL HOUGHTON

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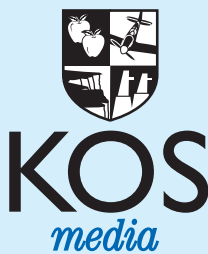
**2** See trailers of all the latest Hollywood blockbusters, including Ben Kingsley as an alcoholic hitman in *You Kill Me*. See **Leisure TV**



**3** Motoring editor Steve Loader test drives a new 4x4. But can you guess the marque? See **Motors TV**

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**LINE UP:** Cocaine is the second most popular drug among users, behind cannabis

# Cheap cocaine use trebles in just two years

## EXCLUSIVE

■ BY GARETH ARNOLD

**COCAINE**, cannabis, Ketamine and amphetamines are the drugs of choice for a new breed of addicts – according to a study from a leading drug research and support service.

KCA has warned that heroin is no longer the biggest problem in the county, and figures obtained by Yourmaidstone under the Freedom Of Information Act back up the findings for mid Kent.

The service says the latest British Crime Survey data shows more people now use cocaine, Ketamine cannabis, steroids, and Ecstasy than heroin.

Police figures for mid Kent confirm that while the number of people caught with heroin has levelled out since 2003, the number of people found with Ecstasy, cocaine and amphetamines has risen sharply in two years.

KCA director of research, Neil Hunt, said: "Increasingly, thirty-somethings are using a complex repertoire of substances. These include cannabis, cocaine and Ecstasy, almost always against a backdrop of high levels of alcohol use."

The study shows that although the use of most class-A drugs has been relatively stable in recent years, cocaine use is increasing.

Police figures show cautions for cocaine possession have risen steadily since 2003, with 55 people reprimanded since April last year, making it the second most popular drug after cannabis.

In 2003, just 11 people were charged with cocaine possession and a further seven were cautioned.

Mr Hunt said: "For a growing number of people, what starts as an occasional treat can turn into a habit that costs too much and leads to serious harm – including heart attacks and strokes."

The author of several reports into drug use has warned that cannabis use in particular is becoming endemic, with serious consequences for a minority of users.

He said: "In many sectors of society, cannabis use has become normalised and it is a staple for many poly-drug users."

"Although unproblematic for most, more people are coming to treatment services because heavy cannabis use is hurting study, work or relationships."

The police statistics show that cautions and charges for cannabis possession have risen sharply since 2003, with a 160 people cautioned or charged for possession since April 2006, compared to just 29 from 2003 to 2004.

KCA is concerned that many recreational drug users do not seek help because the focus on links between crime and drugs has created the perception that drugs services are only for heroin addicts.

The organisation is keen to make it clear that the range of services it offers is available to anyone who feels that drugs of any kind are having a negative impact on their lives.

KCA counsellors offer confidential advice and information on all aspects of drug use from reducing the risks, confidence building and healthy living, to strategies for change, goal setting and life skills.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Purse chains to stop festive pick-pockets

POLICE officers will hand out free purse chains to members of the public as part of their Safer Winter campaign.

Crime prevention advice will be distributed to stop purse thefts as part of the countywide campaign.

Officers will be handing out purse chains to members of the public at Fremlin Walk Shopping Centre on December 11 and The Mall Chequers on December 12 in a bid to deter thieves snatching purses.

### Leaflet drop to help avoid Christmas debt

THE Citizen Advice Bureau is warned people to steer clear of loan-sharks and doorstep lenders in order to stay afloat this Christmas.

The CAB Maidstone branch has produced a leaflet that will be delivered in areas targeted by lenders, offering advice on how to avoid debt.

CAB manager Bonny Malhotra said: "Not all doorstep lenders are unlicensed but they can all charge high repayments."

### Tory triumphant in council bi-election

TORY Sheena Williams won Thursday's close bi-election to join Maidstone council for Shepway South.

She polled 251 votes, Labour's Gill Annan was just behind with 240, Liberal Democrat Bryan Vizzard, 173 and Stephen Muggeridge of the Green party 34.

The council is now made up of 27 Conservative members, 21 Liberal Democrats, four independents and three Labour councillors.

### Gathering's tribute to the terminally ill

A LEADING charity to help people suffering from terminal illnesses has raised £17,000 with its Light up a Life campaign.

The Heart of Kent Hospice raised the money at its annual charity event, held at All Saint's Church in Maidstone

A crowd of 700 lit candles in remembrance of family members and friends who passed away because of terminal illness.

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# Jewellers robbed twice in a week

## Staff stunned by repeat raids on same shop

BY LAUREN MUMFORD

ARMED robbers have targeted an upmarket jeweller's store in Maidstone twice in just one week.

In the first robbery on Tuesday last week, a staff member was sprayed in the face with pepper spray and three days later staff were faced with raiders armed with sledgehammers.

Detectives believe the two attacks may be linked.

The three walked in in the early afternoon on Friday and smashed displays after threatening staff.

They stole £200,000 worth of Rolex watches and a selection of other valuable items, said police.

The men drove off in a blue saloon, parked in Earl Street, which was later found abandoned on Edna Road in Ringlestone, near Maidstone.

During the robbery earlier in the week a shop assistant was sprayed with a noxious substance, believed to be pepper spray.



TARGETED: Fraser Hart jewellers (inset) in the Fremlin Walk shopping Centre was robbed twice in a week

stance, believed to be pepper spray.

Cops say they have dozens of witness statements because both took place in broad daylight at the new shopping centre in the town.

Detective Sergeant Graham Hooks, of Kent Police, said: "Because this crime was carried out in broad daylight in front of many witnesses, we have a lot of information to sift through and we are currently following up many different lines of inquiry."

"We are taking a highly proactive stance and town centre officers are visiting other jewellers in the town to offer crime prevention advice and are stepping up patrols to provide reassurance."

The Fraser Hart store is one of the most prestigious in the Fremlin Walk shopping centre

with an impressive glass frontage.

It also carries out valuations, repairs, insurance quotations as well as selling some of the top name watches including Armani, Hugo Boss, Gucci, Rolex and Tag Heuer.

No official figure has yet been released for the two hauls.

Meanwhile, a man has been charged following a failed robbery at a jewellers in Sittingbourne.

Police said a man tried to steal watches and jewellery worth £40,000 from Topps, but he was apprehended by staff and members of the public. A man, who police have not identified, is in custody and is due in court in Maidstone.

Police believe the Sittingbourne incident was not linked to the incidents in Maidstone.

## 'Unethical' funds to be questioned

CAMPAIGNERS are due to fire questions at the council over millions of pounds in investments in arms, tobacco and oil companies.

Green Party member Stuart Jeffery will be questioning Maidstone council at a meeting today as part of the party's continuing campaign against unethical investment.

The party will be pushing the council to voice its opinion over the investments managed by Kent County Council after they discovered from March 31 this year, share holdings held by KCC included £13.9 million in BAe Systems which is the UK's biggest arms manufacturer, £14 million in tobacco and £91.8 million in oil.

Stuart Jeffery said: "We were outraged to learn that the council's pension fund managers had invested heavily in arms, tobacco and oil. With ethical investments outperforming un-ethical ones, there is absolutely no need to be supporting these companies."

"We will be asking the question 'Does this council agree that investing in arms, tobacco and oil companies should be condemned?' If so, will the borough council call upon KCC to adopt an ethical investment policy and to withdraw its significant shares in companies?"

The Green Party wants Maidstone council to approach KCC and propose that they stop investing in oil, tobacco and arms. If the county council refuses, they then want to ask if it would set up a separate fund based on ethical principles.

If KCC refuse to do either of their requests, they want Maidstone council to withdraw from the Kent Fund and place the pension fund elsewhere.

"We were astounded to learn that the spokesperson for the committee, Lib Dem Dan Daley, wasn't even aware that these investments existed. There has to be pressure on the county council to change its policies and this must come from every quarter," Mr Jeffery said.

The Green Party has now started an online petition to try and get KCC to change its ways.

For more information visit: [www.maidstone.greenparty.org.uk](http://www.maidstone.greenparty.org.uk).

## Climbers hit a wall with new record

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

hundreds of pounds for Scope, which will help us provide vital services for disabled people.

"Although it's a shame they didn't manage to set the world record, the height they covered indoors is a massive achievement and here at Scope we are all really grateful for their efforts."

The confusion about the height of the indoors climbing wall in the atrium of Britain's biggest shopping centre is believed to have come from Bluewater's website – which states it is 36ft – which is 10 metres.

The website states: "Climbers from the age of six years old can have a go on the 36ft Big Blue Rock."

Mr Taylor and Mr Ford are trying to raise £3,500 each to take part in a trek in February for Scope to summit Kala Pattar, Mount Everest in Nepal.

The two friends now plan to attempt the indoors record again next year and will ensure they get the height right next time.

The company which runs the Big Blue Rock climbing wall at Bluewater was unavailable for comment.

## Gypsies told they will be given more land in borough

GYPSIES and travellers could be allocated up to 35 pitches of land in the borough within the next five years.

Gypsies, travellers and travelling show people are being rewarded between five and seven plots of land in various villages each year until 2011, which will act as a permanent home for their caravans and families.

Councillors spent hours at the meeting at County Hall on Monday evening, deciding how they will go about choosing land suitable for travellers to be housed in.

Cllr Harwood said: "This is a very controversial matter. It is widely known what sites have been a home to gypsies in the past because of the amount of rubbish left – we must ensure that we protect the countryside from this happening so I am proposing we look at granting temporary sites instead."

"A lot of stigma is attached to travellers by those outside the travelling community, travellers have always

lived in Kent – it's those people who have moved to the area from outer towns who have an issue with where gypsies locate."

It was apparent that many of the sites that have already been allocated to travellers are not used because they are difficult to get to, not close to schools and are often quite far away from urban areas.

Cllr Lusty said: "There are many parish councils that are recommending sites in their village but they are just no good, many travellers now work in urban areas instead of on land so they need to be able to get to work. Many plots previously given are prone to flooding and are not appropriate, these places just get unused."

The committee decided that land allocation needs to be scrutinised just as development plans for the building of a house would, drawing in on surveys and environmental studies before making a decision.

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## Man's pub violence was 'uncivilised'

DRINKER Roy Cahey exploded into violence when a 16 year old taunted him outside a pub in Sheerness High Street.

Sittingbourne magistrates heard Cahey, 39, of Lunsford Lane, Larkfield, punched him in the mouth and stamped on his face.

Cahey was arrested after police saw the mayhem on closed circuit television. He told police the youth had been drinking with others at the unnamed pub while Cahey had had four shots of vodka and a beer.

He pleaded guilty to assault on the youth who was treated for bruising.

Cahey told the court: "I'm sorry it happened. There were some 15-year-old boys drinking outside and they shouldn't have been. If they had been older and could have held their drink this wouldn't have happened."

Chairman of the bench Elizabeth Tullberg sentenced Cahey to 160 hours community service and ordered him to pay the youth £150 compensation plus £60 court costs.

Mrs Tullberg said: "You indulged in physical violence which was totally reprehensible. Your behaviour was unwarranted and uncivilised."

"You have not got a good record. I normally have to say such things to 16-year-olds not to a man of your age."

## Fine art discovered will be on display

A FAMOUS picture painted by an artist from the county town has been discovered at an auction house 85 miles away.

A pencil and watercolour study by Maidstone-born Albert Goodwin was discovered by a surprised keeper of fine art in Hampshire who recognised his work.

It will feature in Maidstone Museum's 'Albert Goodwin Visionary Landscapes' exhibition which opens on December 15.

The display will be open to the public at Maidstone Museum until March 23.

Picture PHIL HOUGHTON



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## ACTING ON XMAS DRIVERS

HUNDREDS of actors performed a mime to spread the important message to drivers that "drinking and driving wrecks lives."

Around 250 young actors gathered outside Sessions House, County Hall in Maidstone on Monday afternoon as part of Kent Highway Services biggest Christmas anti drink-drive campaign.

Each of the 250 actors at County Hall represented one of the people in Kent who are killed or injured by drinking and driving each year.

KHS Road Safety Operations Manager Steve Horton said: "We think our silent message will make people think twice about drinking and driving this year."

"Over the Christmas and New Year period more people than ever get tempted to drink and drive. The message Kent Highways Services want to get across is that one drink is one too many if you are planning to get behind the wheel."

The launch of this year's drink drive campaign is being supported with a series of television adverts which represent the mime. The campaign message will also feature in bars, at cinemas, on buses and across roadside billboards.

# No reprieve for our at risk Post Offices

■ BY LAUREN MUMFORD

TWO post offices have officially been told they will close as part of cost-cutting measures by Royal Mail bosses.

Hardy Street post office in Maidstone and South Park post office in Loose had hoped to get a reprieve after a six-week consultation period.

Concerned customers wrote letters and signed petitions in a bid to dispute the decision and attempt to save their service.

But the two post offices were last week given the devastating news that they will be axed.

Postmaster Luke Collins, 55, of Hardy Street, said: "The decision has been made and unfortunately there's nothing we can do about it, the customers were unhappy with the decision and it seems that they have taken no notice of our petition or the letters people have sent."

"This post office has been here since 1870. We have been here for 10 years and I have loved every minute of it. I am very disappointed it's

being closed."

The first of the services to close are expected in January.

These cuts follow the guidelines of a new Kent post office plan which was introduced by the government.

The guidelines, which are set through a national accessibility criteria, are to ensure that 99 per cent of the population will either see no change to their branch or they will remain within one mile of an alternative post office.

However, Mr Collins claims that this will just put additional strain on the town centre and the transport system.

"Many residents who use this post office are elderly and find it difficult to walk any further than they do to get here. To get to their nearest service they will have to catch a busy bus and put more pressure on the already busy town's services," he said.

During the consultation period more than 5,400 responses were given by the public and by the affected post office branches. Petitions were also signed in a bid to help sway the decision.

As a result of the information provided during this period, improvements are being made to 18 branches in the county to help improve accessibility or to increase capacity by providing additional counter positions.

Gary Herbert, Post Office Ltd's network development manager for Kent, said: "We have considered very carefully all the comments made during the public consultation. We believe that the amended plan offers our customers across Kent the best prospect for a sustainable network in the future."

For full details of the issues and decisions raised during the consultation period visit [www.postoffice.co.uk/networkchange](http://www.postoffice.co.uk/networkchange).

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# Cash to flow in county town for regeneration

A MASSIVE government regeneration project for the town could see Maidstone receive cash grants of up to £50 million over the next decade.

Next year £1.8 million has already been set aside and £5 million is earmarked over the next three year period to fund improvements to the local infrastructure.

These are the first payments following Maidstone's designation as a growth point and the borough council will be appealing for more cash in 2009.

New park and ride facilities are planned to the north of the town along the A229 to serve shoppers and commuters from the Medway towns.

Another service will be established at Langley Park Farm to the south of the town

■ BY NICK AMES

while the Sittingbourne Road site is to undergo a massive refurbishment.

The cash is forthcoming as the Government has declared the county town a growth point.

The council has also appealed for £9 million in order to fund a new Heritage Quarter and tourist attraction as well as regenerate the area around Knightrider Street and realign Upper Stone Street.

## Benefit

Local authority leader Fran Wilson said: "All groups on the council saw the benefit to the town of becoming a growth point.

"We agreed to take another 1,800 houses over 20 years, taking our total to 10,080 so that we could apply for extra funding to deal with existing infrastructure problems and plan for the

extra houses that were inevitably coming our way.

"Time has proved us right because neighbouring towns have been allocated more houses than had been agreed but were unable to bid for the growth point money."

Other cash gains for Maidstone could include £5 million for improvements to public places and £3.7 million to fund an extension to the east wing of the museum.

A new £20 million library and history centre has also been proposed while for an investment cost of £5.4 million a small business enterprise centre working with the Federated Academy of New line Learning Schools which would create 60 new units for new businesses.

Sustainability and improvement of the air quality underpin all the projects which also include a greening of the infrastructure, better pedestrian routes, marketing to sell the town and a business skills drive.

## Pub brings smokers back in from the cold

SMOKERS can enjoy views over beautiful countryside and keep warm thanks to a new al fresco eating and drinking facility.

Customers at The Bull Inn in Linton celebrated the opening of a new al fresco area in the pub's beer garden on Saturday which has outdoor heating and lighting and can seat up to 25 people.

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Bird of prey expert, Lee Holmes from Leeds Castle with Lurch

Picture: LAUREN MUMFORD



CHARITY CAROL CHORUS: Westborough Primary School took part in The Mall's Xmas Factor competition

## KIDS FULL OF FESTIVE SONG

SHOPPERS were serenaded with Christmas carols sung by primary school children as part of a festive fundraiser.

Children from Westborough Primary School took part in the Mall's Xmas Factor competition where they sang a festive selection of Christmas carols to lighten shopper's spirits and raise money for Marie Curie Cancer Care.

The school choir, who sang last Thursday at The Mall in Maidstone, raised a staggering £602 for the charity that has been providing care and support for cancer sufferers and their families through-out Kent for over 40 years.

Music teacher Mrs Auriol Richards said: "The afternoon's gone really well, the children were buzzing and really going for it, so many people have been stopping to watch them.

"They have been rehearsing for four weeks prior to the event and have been practising hard."

Proud parent Ms Sharon Jackson was amongst the crowd and said: "I am very proud of my two daughters, Casey, 10 and Aleesha, nine, who are both singing in the choir today. The girls have been really excited, constantly singing around the house and working really hard practising."

Charities were invited to take part in The Mall's Xmas Factor at the end of last month to help raise money for their chosen cause.

Organisations have been booked at the centre for a day to participate in the event up until December 16 where they will be able to collect money for their charity while a school choir sing a selection of Christmas favourites. The money raised by the winning school choir at the end of the competition will be matched by The Mall.

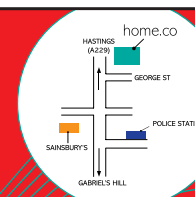
Ms Caroline Drake, 27, a community fundraiser for Marie Curie Cancer Care said: "Today's fundraising has gone really well, the tins are full which is starting to make my arms hurt.

"The children's singing is just beautiful - having them here while we are collecting really makes you feel Christmassy and festive."

• Mums and dads - there were so many of you our video crew were unable to get close enough. Upload your video of children singing at [www.Yourkenttv.co.uk](http://www.Yourkenttv.co.uk).

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Offer code: 7857

EAN Barcode: 00785709



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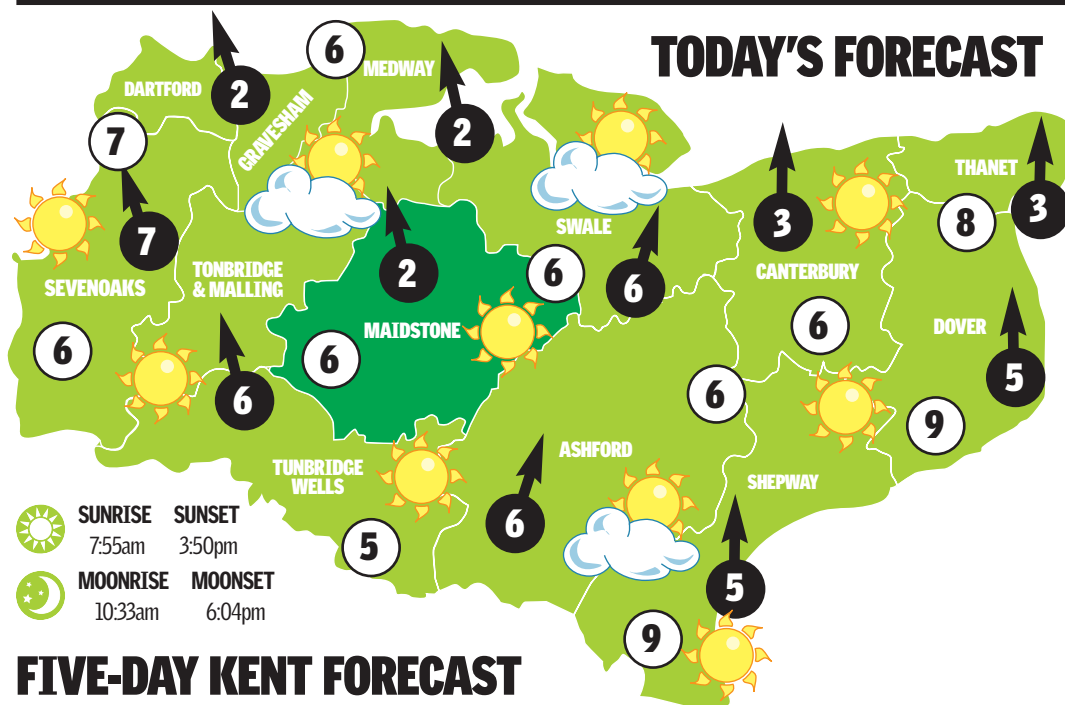


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## Kelly's sad farewell at father's funeral

GRIEVING actress and model Kelly Brook bid an emotional farewell to her father behind closed doors at his funeral this week.

The private service for Kenneth Parsons took place at Medway Crematorium in Chatham on Friday.

The 57-year-old builder had passed away at the family's home in Rochester at the end of last month following a long battle with lung cancer.

Brook, 28, had been one of the favourites to win BBC TV talent show Strictly Come Dancing before her father's death.

She initially said she wanted to stay in the show and carried on rehearsals with fiery dance partner Brendan Cole, saying it was what her father would have wanted.

But she found it too difficult to concentrate on the gruelling schedule and was forced to pull out of the popular show.

Brook lives in a £1 million country home in the village of Grafty Green, near Maidstone, with Hollywood star Billy Zane.



GRIEF: Star Kelly Brook and her family at the funeral



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# yourlocalinterview

## QUESTION & ANSWER

### ANNA MOORE



**Q** So what does your job actually involve?

**A** Someone will contact me saying that they need help in choosing an outfit – it may be a woman who is going back to work after having a baby for example.

I'll do a profile of them, find out about their lifestyle, and their likes and dislikes about themselves. I then go to stores I think are appropriate, choose outfits and accessories, and the client will spend time with me trying them on and I'll give my opinion on what works and what doesn't.

**Q** Why do you feel that a second opinion on choosing clothes is important?

**A** People tend to focus on what they don't like about themselves – it's 'does my bum look big in this?' But I will notice what really does look good in a person. It could be a great pair of legs or wonderful cleavage.

I will try and accentuate that rather than conceal. Also when I dress and accessorise I can see how things will work together. Like a pair of trousers might be great for work, but with a little bit added would be fine for evening wear.

**Q** How did you get into this line of work?

**A** I was working as a commercial stylist, so I was dressing models and organising fashion shoots and I kept getting asked for my

advice by friends. It ended up that I was doing more of the personal than the professional, so I decided to go full time.

**Q** What is the major difference between then and now for you?

**A** Well I used to dress models, now I deal with real people. They come in all shapes and sizes, they are aged 18-70 with different attitudes, lifestyles and budgets. It's far more interesting and far more of a challenge.

**Q** Who is the most famous person you dressed?

**A** I'd have to say Yasmin le Bon.

**Q** How is it working at Bluewater?

**A** It's great – it's all just so handy. Doing this in the West End you are taking cabs, driving in traffic and taking ages to get anywhere. At Bluewater it's all under one roof, shops are seconds away, parking is easy. There are great cafes and restaurants to take a break in as well. I actually approached Bluewater myself and asked them if I could work alongside their stores and it's worked out great.

**Q** What about the stores themselves?

**A** Fantastic – they're all top quality and range from the quirky to the large flagship stores.

**Q** What about your own personal shopping preferences?

**A** I love Massimo Dutti (a worldwide fashion chain with ranges including sophisticated, urban and sporty). But I also think M&S is fantastic. I'm certainly not a designer-led girl. If I think something is worth the money I will buy it. But the fast fashion on sale in the British High Street is fantastic – not beaten anywhere else.

**Q** What has been popular in the run-up to Christmas?

**A** I have had a lot of husbands buying vouchers for their wives to come and shop with me and that has been great.

They cost £300 and I suppose the present includes a budget for the visit on many occasions.

**Q** So what would you consider a good present, say I paid for a voucher and donated £700 for a £1,000 gift to a friend. Is that about average?

**A** Actually it's very generous – I think anything over £500 works. But you can get yourself kitted out very nicely for £200 so it's not got to be hugely extravagant.

Anna Moore is a style queen and a personal shopper at Bluewater and with her help can make a person look and feel like a million dollars in just a day – as she explained to **Nick Ames**

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**Sainsbury's Wine offer:** Wine must be collected from Sainsbury's Wine Store in Calais by 20th December 2007. Offer can only be redeemed on production of the appropriate P&O ferries voucher at the checkout. Voucher will be provided with your P&O Ferries travel tickets on departure. Offer valid for one case of complimentary wine per car ferry ticket (not per passenger). Subject to availability, the Calais store will reserve the right to replace the wine case on offer with a similar case of wine of equal or higher value. The law does not permit the sale of alcohol to persons under the age of 18 years. Please drink responsibly.



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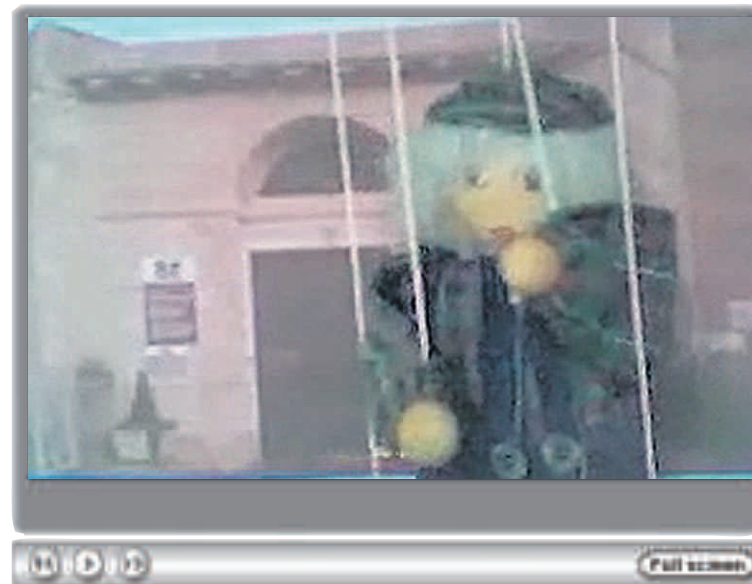
## 1 Waltzing with Gordon Giltrap

Thanet residents Ian Sharpe and Victoria Lawrence are UK champion amateur ballroom and Latin American dancers, and have appeared in TV shows and ads – they were filmed dancing to Mrs Singer's Waltz, a tune composed and performed by famed guitarist Gordon Giltrap.



## 2 Your roving puppet reporter

Meet the county's newest roving reporter – Ken Tishman. Although he's a puppet, Ken has strong views about foreign criminals behind bars at Canterbury prison, the cost of public transport, and how elderly people will be hit by the high cost of heating their homes.



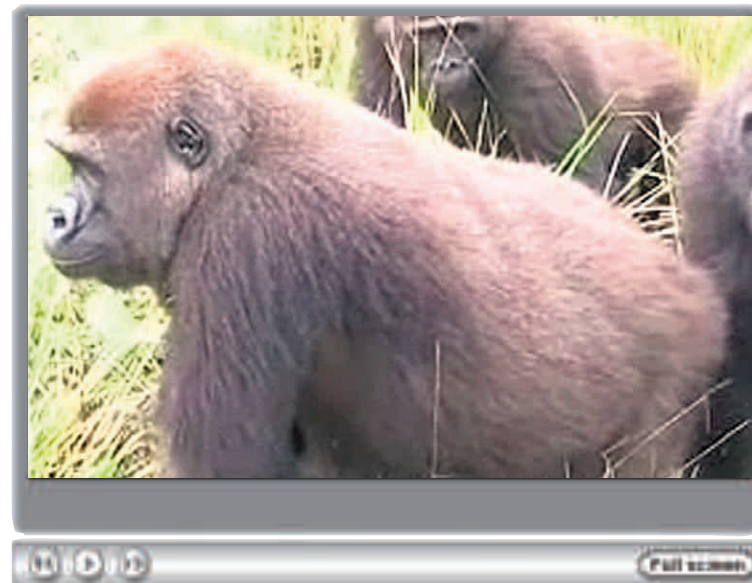
## 3 Confessions of a DJ

Inspired by the popular films of Invicta FM radio presenters' confessions on Community TV, our own sweet-toothed rapper EmCee Flapjack has some of his own secrets he wants to get off his chest. If you've got a story to share, why not upload it to [yourkenttv.co.uk](http://yourkenttv.co.uk)?



## 4 Unique gorilla is born free

This footage shows the first gorilla born in the wild to reintroduced parents. The film has been released by the Aspinall Foundation, based at Howletts wildlife park near Canterbury. The parents of the baby, who was born on October 5, are wild-born orphans.



### SPORT TV



Ehbsfleet United manager says referees should get hi-tech help

### BUSINESS TV



Ice-cream maker explains how she won a food award

### PROPERTY TV



This week's focus is on the Medway housing market

### LEISURE TV



Film editor Thelma Schoonmaker on working with Martin Scorsese

### MOTORS TV



Motoring guru Steve Loader test drives Hyundai's new i30

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# Lorry lenses to prevent side-swiping

■ BY NICK AMES

**MOVES** to reduce the problem of foreign lorries 'blind-siding' motorists on the county's major highways are now in place, following Government action to hand out stick-on safety lenses to help drivers see when overtaking.

The threat to the county's drivers is most intense on the M20, M2 and A2, where the high-sided trucks come from the Continent and pass through to other parts of the UK.

It comes from the juggernauts having the steering side on the left, which means the driver can fail to see cars when pulling out to overtake – sometimes with fatal results to unwary motorists.

## Scheme

In 2006, Kent police figures taking into account the M20, M2, M25, M26, A2 and A20 showed 45 instances of accidents where death or injury occurred involving Continental trucks.

A pilot scheme has seen the special lenses – given out at ports in both Kent and across the Channel – reduce the rate of accidents by 59 per cent in recent months.

Now a further 90,000 of the devices are to be given out in a bid to reduce instances even further.

They come complete with instructions in

English, French, German, Spanish, Polish and Dutch, and adhere to the passenger side window to widen the driver's field of vision and cut out the dangerous blind spot.

The so called 'Fresnel lenses' are small wafer-thin sheets of flexible plastic – about 10 inches by 12 inches – with a moulded optical lens that sticks to flat glass.

A Transport Department spokesman said: "Nine per cent of all HGVs in accidents are foreign-registered. Of these 1,117 HGVs, 982 were left-hand drive and weighed more than 7.5 tonnes.

"Some 409 foreign-registered left-hand drive HGVs were changing lane to the right at the time of the accident and 14 were changing lane to the left."

Speaking ahead of a visit to the Channel Tunnel Lorry Park in at Ashford, Road Safety Minister Jim Fitzpatrick said: "Side-swiping is an issue we are determined to tackle.

"It's important all truckers, whether from Britain or overseas, are able use our roads safely.

"However, many drivers here don't realise that left-hand drive lorries can't easily see a car overtaking them on the right, such as on a motorway."

"This has resulted in more than 400 side-swipe incidents in 2006 alone. As well as being dangerous, these incidents cause delays and congestion."

Officials at the Department for Transport said all trucks had a blind spot alongside the cab on their passenger side, which can



**ON THE BLIND SIDE:** New safety lenses will help lorry drivers from the Continent see UK drivers more easily

cause cars alongside to disappear from the driver's view.

A spokesman said: "This is a particular problem for left-hand drive trucks operating in the UK, when they change lanes to overtake. The lenses offer drivers of left-hand drive vehicles a wider field of vision through the passenger window."

The trial was conducted by the Highways Agency, the Vehicle and Operator Services Agency and the Immigration Service.

A total of 40,000 stick-on Fresnel lenses were distributed free of charge at three French ports to drivers of left-hand drive lorries coming to the UK.

## Pfizer celebrates HIV drug with £25,000 fund

TO celebrate the launch of its ground-breaking new HIV medicine, Pfizer has set up a £25,000 fund to help community groups across the county.

Maraviroc is the latest drug to be discovered and developed by the pharmaceutical giant's research and development scientists based at Sandwich.

The first new oral class of HIV medicines in the last decade has been granted regulatory approval in Europe and the US, and will go on the market under the trademark name Celsentriq.

To mark the breakthrough, Pfizer aims to support 25 Kent-based community projects improving health and the wellbeing of people across the county.

Each accepted project will receive £1,000 to spend on computer hardware or software.

Pfizer teams have raised the money for the Computers for the Community Fund by recycling IT equipment no longer needed at its Sandwich R&D centre.

## Discovery

Dr Annette Doherty, the plant's research and site leader, said: "At Pfizer we understand the value of technology and its importance in advancing medical research to deliver new, innovative medicines for patients.

"It is the expertise of our world-class scientists taking advantage of the capabilities of IT that led to the discovery of maraviroc.

"Lack of IT resources, however, can pose a stumbling block for many organisations. That's why we're offering to help 25 Kent not-for-profit projects by funding new IT equipment."

She added: "Pfizer plays an active part in communities across the county and we want to celebrate our success in developing the new medicine by giving practical support to local projects that share our passion for improving health and wellbeing."

To apply for the fund organisations will need to demonstrate they are based in Kent and delivering projects in the county, operating as not-for-profit, and aiming to improve health and wellbeing.

Write to Christine Jenkins, Community Affairs, Pfizer Ltd, IPC 223, Sandwich, CT13 9NJ, or email christine.yjenkins@pfizer.com, for an application form before January 31.



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## MAIDSTONE SHOPPING

### Hugs and kisses could be yours at bear shop

BUILD-A-Bear is spreading the festive cheer by offering its customers a host of Christmas promotions this month.

The store at Fremlin Walk in Maidstone is wishing all its customers a merry Christmas by offering the new 'Sweet Hugs and Kisses' bear for £5 when they spend £20 or more, while stocks last.

Shoppers who spend £25 or more will also be able to purchase a £10 gift voucher for half price.

For more details call 01622 769562.

### Give charitably cheery cards this Christmas

CHARITY Christmas cards are on sale to raise money for research to combat one of the most common life-threatening illnesses in the country.

The Cancer Research UK charity shop in Maidstone is selling a selection of festive Christmas cards, with all proceeds going to fund its lifesaving work.

Packs of ten, 24, 30 and 40 cards are available in the Gabriel's Hill store in a range of tasteful designs. Other Christmas gifts are also available.

### Great seasonal deals on games and consoles

GAME is offering a number of great deals on this year's must-have games consoles.

Shoppers visiting Game in High Street, Maidstone, can save over £49 when they buy Fifa 08 and Smackdown Vs Raw 2008 with a PlayStation 3 40GB console.

Customers can also save over £35 when they buy an Xbox 360 Elite with Assassins Creed, Forza 2 and Viva Pinta along with an extra wireless controller.

For details see www.game.co.uk.

### Elf to entertain shoppers with balloon creations

CHILDREN will be kept amused by marvellous balloon creations as one of Santa's elves takes to the streets of a popular shopping area.

The festive character will be making balloon animals and figures on demand for youngsters in Fremlin Walk on Friday from 2-5pm and from 12-3pm the following Friday.

The centre in Maidstone will also host performances by Marcel Marceaux the mime artist tomorrow from 6-9pm and on Saturday from 12-3pm.

### Store goes outdoors to raise funds for hospice

AN outdoor clothing store has raised more than £240 for a hospice for terminally ill children by organising a 10km sponsored walk.

Cotswold Outdoor raised the funds for Demelza House Children's Hospice in Bobbing after taking walkers through the North Downs to Boxley and Detling.

The store, based in Newnham Court Shopping Village, will continue to support Demelza House as its nominated charity with in-store events and other fundraising activities.

For more details visit www.cotswold-outdoor.com.

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# yourcompetition

## WIN! Signed Long Way Down books courtesy of Kent Nissan dealerships

ADVENTURE addicts hooked on Ewan McGregor and Charley Boorman's fantastic Long Way Down expedition will be thrilled to learn that Nissan, which provided two Patrols to support the team on its extreme journey, is releasing a number of Long Way Down Special Edition vehicles.

To complement the current range of naturally capable 4x4s, Nissan has created Special Editions of not just the Patrol but also the Navara 4x4 pickup to mark Nissan's involvement with the Long Way Down adventure.

Available now from Ancaster Bromley, Beadles Maidstone and Motorline Dartford including other Nissan dealerships in the area, motorists can drive away in the vehicles famed for their rugged performance, much like the Nissan Patrols that supported the travellers on their journey from John O'Groats to Cape Town.

To celebrate, the Kent Nissan dealerships are offering readers the chance to win one of 15 Long Way Down books signed not only by

**NISSAN**  
SPORTS ADVENTURE

Russ Malkin and David Alexanian, the producers and directors of the hit show who drove the Nissan Patrols 15,000 miles, but also by adventurer Charley Boorman, who travelled the journey by motorcycle.

The two Nissan Patrols, which were modified to take the extreme rigours of the journey, demonstrated well-proven strengths of the Nissan 4x4 range including reliability, power and durability as they supported the Long Way Down team.

During their 86-day tour, the vehicles tackled non-existent roads, uncompromising terrain, deep mud and floods. The only problem to report over the journey was a single puncture between them!

It's easy to see why the Long Way Down team chose a Nissan 4x4 as their support vehicle on their gruelling 15,000-mile journey. The Patrol 'Long Way Down' Special Edition boasts a high-performance 3.0 litre, 160 PS, 16-valve



diesel engine along with a five-speed manual or four-speed automatic transmission with selectable 4WD and dual ratio gearbox.

Not all 'muscle', the tough vehicle also allows for luxury with climate control air-conditioning, DVD satellite navigation and luxury leather upholstery.

Matched in strength, style and durability are the Nissan Navara and Nissan Navara Expedition 'Long Way Down' special editions.

The Navara also took on an important role on the Long Way Down journey, it was driven by local crew from Botswana to South Africa.

With the same 4x4 spirit, the Navara's impressive engine delivers 171 HP and an

incredible 403Nm of torque, making it the most powerful vehicle in its class.

This European best-selling pickup gives great durability without increasing weight, able to take on heavy loads exceeding 1,000 Kg. The Special Editions boast 17-inch alloy wheels, dual zone climate control, six-speed manual transmission, part-time 4WD and leather upholstery for comfort and style.

The Navara 'Long Way Down' Expedition Special Edition further boasts DVD satellite navigation with voice activation and hands-free phone operation.

For further information about the Long Way Down Special Edition vehicles or to arrange a test drive, contact Nissan Ancaster Bromley on 020 8290 8700, Beadles Maidstone on 01622 716777 or Motorline Dartford on 01322 280025.

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Nissan Comp, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR. Closing date is December 19, 2007.

Q) Which Nissan 4x4 did the Long Way Down team drive from John O'Groats to Cape Town?

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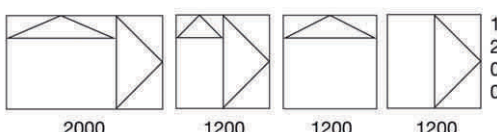
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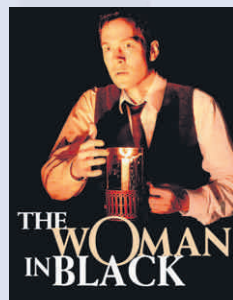
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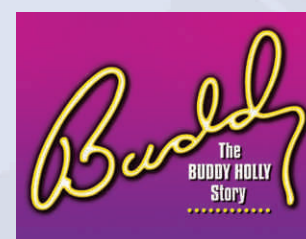
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# yourmaidstoneblogger



Each week we get a mystery writer to air their views on living in and around Maidstone...

## Time to get the bored 'chavs' off the streets

KIDS are like puppies – if they're bored and have nothing to do they will get themselves into trouble.

Week after week I read in the newspapers and see on the television how children are committing more and more crimes, and intimidating people on a day-to-day basis, however, I think the only reason they are doing this is purely because they are bored and having nothing else to do.

Every weekend in Maidstone town centre I see groups of children and teenagers walking around the streets looking untidy, spitting as if they're animals and causing trouble.

The majority of kids that walk the streets in the evenings are stereotypically modern day 'chavs' fashioning their baggy tracksuit bottoms, cheap/fake designer jewellery and trainers that frankly should be banned.

It doesn't matter what time of the day it is, they're just there, next to McDonald's, by Burger King or sitting in some sort of alleyway or 'hidey-hole' writing on walls, smoking, spit-

ting and looking threatening to the vulnerable people who have to walk by.

A lot of kids go into town to shop, socialise with friends and then go home, but for the vast majority, I have noticed that over the three years I have lived in Maidstone, more and more children are just hanging around the streets, which sends out the wrong impression of our town.

I always see kids approaching members of the public either to poke fun at them to pass the time or to get them to buy cigarettes as the legal age to purchase them has now risen to 18.

In the day time, kids are spitting on the streets, smoking when they're clearly underage, and insulting the vulnerable (the elderly or younger children) as they pass by.

I wonder about the parenting skills that the parents of these 'chavs' clearly lack... for example in December, kids should be wearing a little more than just jogging bottoms or short skirts and slim-fitted tops with their puppy fat seeping through the gaps.

Surely the parents should be stopping them looking like cheap tarts and refusing to let

them hang around streets at night not only because they look ridiculous, but as it's dangerous and irresponsible.

My worry is that by these parents letting their kids out loose on the streets at all hours of the day, not knowing what they are doing, they will get used to doing nothing productive, get in with the wrong crowd and end up being the future benefit claimers.

Maybe if there were more events, like football, athletics and youth clubs, where they could do something productive, there wouldn't be as much trouble on the streets.

Children would also benefit from events that happen in the evenings, if they were asked what they would like to do and the council spent some time and money in trying to fulfil these wishes Maidstone would be a better place.

**EDITOR'S NOTE: All bloggers are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.**

### GET IN TOUCH...

We want to hear your views



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### LET US KNOW...

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the news editor, **Jon Coates**, on 01303 817048 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Maidstone blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the news editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to [www.yourmaidstone.co.uk](http://www.yourmaidstone.co.uk).

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## TALK TIME

### DAVID TAYLOR

A 22-year-old financial adviser and freelance pyrotechnist told Yourmaidstone about his charity work and interests.



#### Where do you live in Maidstone and what attracted you to the area?

I live in central Maidstone with my fiancée and son. I have lived in the Maidstone area most of my life and I chose this area because it's an hour from the coast, an hour from London and my family.

#### Do you have any claims to fame?

I attempted to climb the height of Mount Everest (8,848 metres) on the indoor climbing wall at Bluewater shopping centre last week to set a new world record. The event is part of our fundraising efforts for a trek we're doing in February next year for the charity Scope. I need to raise £3,500. We will be going to the Himalayas where we will trek for 19 days through the Khumbu region of Nepal to the base of Everest and then summit Kala Pattar.

I've been running, rowing and weight training to prepare myself for the event.

I'm nervous but also very excited about it all. However, the main reason we are doing this is to raise lot of money for Scope, which works with people with cerebral palsy and this is more important than setting a world record.

#### What other hobbies and interests do you have?

I've been rock climbing, mountaineering and kayaking since the age of 11.

I have also been a Beaver Scout leader since I left the Scouts and I volunteer for the Red Cross, providing medical cover for various events such as football matches or concerts.

## YOUR LETTERS



### Stop being selfish and move forward

I must be in the minority when I say I agree with the idea of a freight terminal on land between Bearsted and Lenham.

It's all very well to keep opposing this idea, but as far as I am aware where they want to build it the area is green fields unlike the area around Tonbridge where some land has been built on, or from Paddock Wood, East Peckham and Mereworth, where orchards and hop fields have disappeared under housing developments, or in this area where farm land has been developed since the 1960s.

To say nothing of part of East Malling research station also being developed, as well as oast houses being developed into living accommodation.

The main reason the people of Hollingbourne do not want the freight station there has nothing to do with it spoiling the countryside, it has more to do with the lowering of the value of houses that are there at present.

The people of Japan and some European countries must be



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laughing at the English people. No wonder Japan has got on so well, it's because they look to the

future, whereas the majority of English people seem to live in the past.

We may have been a big power once upon-a-time, however we are now part of Europe and the sooner people realise this fact the better.

I can remember when Aldon Farms at Offham was a picture in the spring time when the cherry blossom was about, that sadly has vanished as have the apple orchards over Paddock Wood way and most of the hop gardens. These were what made Kent, not meadows that would easily be used for what is proposed at Bearsted.

It seems to me that we have become a very selfish society when people prefer open spaces rather than a freight station.

Goodness knows firms have vanished in this area - what's more Sheppey has been built up so it is time that the area around Bearsted was developed.

It is utter rubbish to keep opposing everything that could take the country forward just because some people are more interested in the value of their houses rather than see this area developed for the good of all.

Mrs K Wood,  
from Larkfield,  
by letter.

## Why would anyone support the depot?

No wonder people are angry - why on earth would anyone think the Kent International Gateway is a good idea in any shape or form?

We have some of the best countryside in the south east alongside the north downs and now someone with no idea and appreciation of the area wants to just concrete it all over.

They really should rethink this as it is a disgraceful scheme.

Brian Nyland  
Maidstone

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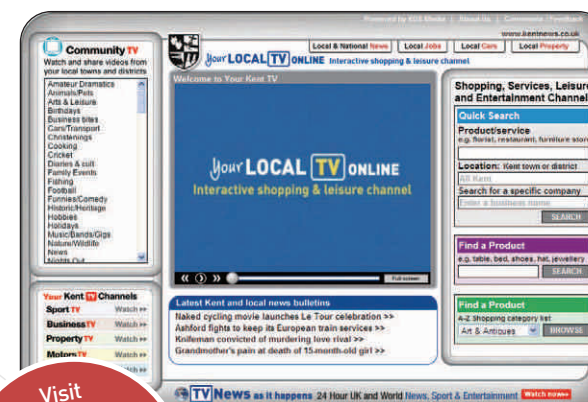


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## Gateway would bring us valuable jobs

Your front page last week certainly tore into the proposed freight terminal, but I have other ideas.

What about the jobs this will create and the increased prosperity it will bring to local businesses as an influx of companies arrives in the area? People need to move with the times – development will happen whether they like it or not.

Damon Keene  
Maidstone

## Museum grant is good for history

Good news that Maidstone Museum is to receive a cash grant as it is a real undiscovered jewel.

The collection of military memorabilia, Japanese artifacts and treasures from the south sea islands are all of a very high standard indeed. Best of all, it's free.

This is exactly the sort of thing which will inspire young people to get a real interest in the wider world around them.

Paul Bernard  
Bearsted

## It's great to see such support for the trust

Good for Joanna Lumley that she is backing the Kent Wildlife Trust by becoming its patron in its 50th year.

That such a popular, important

and busy person can devote their time and energy to this cause just shows how important it is that we preserve and appreciate what we have in this county.

Some of the best scenery in the United Kingdom is right on our doorsteps.

Jeremy Bentham  
Hollingbourne

## Don't be so paranoid about identity cards

Your blogger last week seemed to be firmly in the anti camp when it comes to the issue of identity cards. So I have to ask him or her what have they got to hide?

For people who have nothing to worry about the identity card will just not be an issue.

People will carry it as a matter of course and just use it without a second thought. It is only those who are in some way contravening the law who will have anything to be concerned about.

Miles Cavendish  
Maidstone

## It's a great honour, what does it mean?

Ann Widdecombe has been really good news for us and I was pleased to read your coverage of her being granted freedom of the borough.

She has been a popular MP who has never flinched from talking honestly about the major issues.

And I say that as someone who had not voted for her until the last General Election in 2005.

My final question, and one not dealt with in your story, what privileges does the Freedom of the Borough of Maidstone actually bestow upon the recipient?

Yvonne Cummings,  
Maidstone

## Say no to the cruelty of animal testing

The RSPCA is deeply concerned about the suffering of animals used in research and testing.

The current review of the European law governing animal experiments presents a vital opportunity to benefit millions of animals.

We have launched a petition to demonstrate how strongly the public wants the new law to ensure tighter controls on animal use in experiments throughout Europe. You can add your support at [www.rspca.org.uk/directive86609](http://www.rspca.org.uk/directive86609), or going to your local RSPCA branch or shop.

The RSPCA believes the new law should cover all animals used in basic research as well as education and training. Such animals account for 35 per cent of animals used for scientific purposes, and are not currently protected by the law. An immediate ban on the use of great apes and wild-caught primates and a co-ordinated strategy to replace all other primates use should also be included.

We hope your name will be on the petition when we present it to the Government at the end of the year.

Sally Hall  
RSPCA regional manager  
South East region

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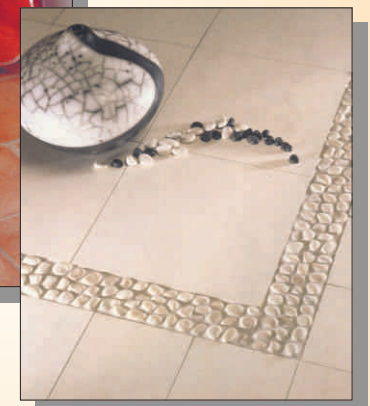


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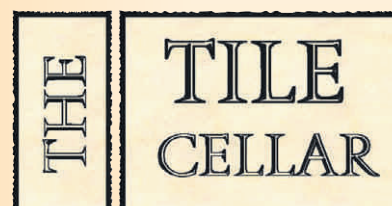


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# yourmaidstoneleisure

# Garlands of song about my mother

## Lorna Luft's tour honours Judy Garland

**LORNA LUFT**

Tuesday, January 29

The Orchard Theatre, Dartford



CLASSIC songs with a personal resonance will ring out again as Lorna Luft brings her acclaimed show to Kent.

Songs My Mother Taught Me is Luft's first tour for a decade and one which both celebrates her own talent and pays tribute to her mother, legendary entertainer Judy Garland. Described as her most ambitious project to date, Luft has created a multi-media production that blends some of the world's best-loved songs with personal memories of her mother.

As the daughter of Garland and producer Sid Luft, music and entertainment were an integral part of her childhood.

She made her television debut on The Judy Garland Show at the age of 11, singing with the incredible voice that still makes her a hugely popular live performer.

Luft went on to become an acclaimed stage, television and film actress, best selling author, recording artist and Emmy Award nominated producer. Songs My Mother Taught Me has already been awarded two Los Angeles Theatre Alliance Ovation Awards.

Her mother was born Frances Ethel Gumm in Grand Rapids, Minnesota, in 1922. She first trod the boards at the age of two and a half, when she joined her two older sisters in a rendition of Jingle Bells at her father's theatre.

She soon emerged as the real star of the act, which had been renamed The Garland Sisters, and signed a contract with film studio Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer at the age of just 13.

In 1939 she landed the role of Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz, which is perhaps her most famous and best-loved character ever.

Her unforgettable voice and outstanding charisma

grabbed the world's attention and she became one of MGM's most bankable stars.

As she got older, Garland tried to escape the girl-next-door image created for her in an attempt to compete with her glamorous contemporaries.

However, she always worried about her appearance and suffered a number of breakdowns due to the pressures of her relentless workload.

She was married five times and had two other children - Liza, with director Vincente Minelli, and Joseph, also with Sid Luft.

Her incredible film, television and concert career was sadly overshadowed by the drug addiction which started during her early days at MGM. She died from an accidental overdose of barbiturates in her London home in 1969, aged just 47.

For Luft, who was only a teenager at the time of her mother's death, revisiting the past is both an emotional and uplifting experience.

She has released an album to accompany the tour, produced by husband Colin Freeman and long-time friend Barry Manilow, which includes emotive classics such as Meet Me in St Louis and A Star Is Born.

"In the show, we laugh, we cry, we sing, we joke," she said. "We celebrate the joy that was and still is my mom and her music."

The performance starts at 7.45pm and tickets cost £19.50.

To book, call the box office on 01322 220000 or visit [www.orchardtheatre.co.uk](http://www.orchardtheatre.co.uk).

**FOR MOM:** Lorna Luft's first tour in ten years is a tribute to her mother, Judy Garland

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## DON MESCALL

Monday, December 17  
Zebra Bar, Maidstone



RENOWNED Kent-based songwriter Don Mescall will be showing off his talents in Maidstone next week.

Mescall's songs have been recorded by big stars such as Ronan Keating, Lulu and Bryan McFadden. He has also co-written with Nashville legends Craig Wiseman, Randy Goodrum and Graham Lyle.

As a singer, Mescall has enjoyed the successful release of his debut album, *Innocent Run*, and major radio play of *You Don't Love Me* and *Left in LA*.

Now living in Folkestone, Mescall originally hails from Co Limerick, Ireland, and is one of just a handful of British songwriters to make an impact on Nashville's country music writing community.

Mescall is known for connecting with his audiences using intense delivery and intimately personal lyrics. Using profound life experiences, such as losing his father as a young boy and the failure of a marriage, his songs range from the fragile to the uplifting.

The gig, which will include a special surprise guest, starts at 8pm. Tickets, costing £10 on the night or £8 in advance, can be booked in person at the bar in King Street or by calling 01622 744481.



## MEDIAEVAL BAEBES

Friday, December 12  
Trinity Theatre, Tunbridge Wells



ENTER another world and experience a time gone by with the Mediaeval Baebes.

Seven beautiful maidens will transport you into a state of fairytale whimsy, otherworldly enchantment and supernatural seduction with their ancient songs. Singing in nine different languages, the playful and talented girls will explore topics from the dark to the light-hearted.

Taking lyrics from mediaeval texts and setting them to original scores using period and classical instruments, the Baebes have created a unique act that has proved popular around the world. Performing everywhere from cathedrals to rock clubs, the group has released five studio albums which rode high in the classical charts.

Fall under their spell at the Trinity Theatre, where the concert starts at 8pm. Tickets cost £20/£18. To book, call the box office on 01892 678678 or visit the website at [www.trinitytheatre.net](http://www.trinitytheatre.net)

## CINDERELLA

Saturday, December 15 until Sunday, January 6  
Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells



JOIN the stars for a glittering night of pantomime fun at the Assembly Hall Theatre in Tunbridge Wells.

Cinderella stars children's TV favourite Barney Harwood – star of *Prank Patrol*, *Totally Dr Who* and CBBC's *Smile* – as the loveable Buttons, who falls for the beautiful servant girl.

Tom Vaughan, who played trendy DJ Spike in *Hollyoaks*, will be her Prince Charming, while Sarah Thomas, of *Last of the Summer Wine*, keeps them all in order as the Fairy Godmother.

With music, laughter and great costumes, Cinderella promises to be the theatre's most spectacular panto yet.

Cinderella opens on Saturday, December 15, and will run until Sunday, January 6 (not every day). Tickets are priced from £10 to £19.50 and performance times vary. For more information or to book, call the box office on 01892 530613/532072 or visit [www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk](http://www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk).



## MAIDSTONE LEISURE

### Bag a bizarre bargain or two at bazaar

ENJOY some street entertainment and pick up unique bargains at a Bizarre Bazaar in Maidstone this weekend.

Stilt walkers will be keeping shoppers entertained while they browse a selection of handmade arts and crafts by local artists and designers. The bazaar will be held at The Royal Star Arcade in Market Buildings from 10.30am to 4.30pm on Sunday.

For details, call 01622 602828 or see [www.maidstonearts.com](http://www.maidstonearts.com).

### Enjoy a night of silly comedy with Charlie

HAVE a laugh at the Walnut Tree in Tonbridge Road, Maidstone, when it hosts its regular adult comedy night tomorrow.

Charlie Baker has been a finalist in two major comedy competitions and enjoyed great success on the circuit. His silly, inoffensive style should provide an evening of big laughs.

The free gig starts at 9.30pm. For details call the pub on 01622 727260.

### Tribute act brings to life the sounds of the 60s

RELIVE the golden age of the 1960s with a live performance by Mel Harris tonight.

Billed as the ultimate 60s tribute act, Harris uses his incredible vocal and guitar skills to recreate the magic of that fabled decade. Featuring all the best-loved hits, his show should get your dancing feet moving.

Harris will be performing at the Angel Inn at Addington Green, West Malling.

For details call the pub on 01732 842117.

### Ramble off the pounds with a circular walk

WORRIED about piling on the pounds over Christmas?

Start getting fit before the festivities with a good ramble in the fresh air around Bearsted. Walkers are welcome to join a five-and-a-half mile circular walk around the village on Sunday.

Ramblers should meet at Bearsted Station at 10am.

For more information call 01622 710782.

## VIEW THIS CLIP ON

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# yourmaidstonetimeout



## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

No14

Can you spot the five differences between these two pictures of tourists outside Canterbury Cathedral?

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## CROSSWORD

No14

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### CRYPTIC CLUES

#### ACROSS

- 1 Honest view about retrograde art (8)  
6 Wife initially gives assistance to pups (6)  
9 Thrifty girl removed fur first (6)  
10 Fundamental part cut short of a potato perhaps (4-4)  
11 Seeing good girl reflectively here (7-5)  
13 Can be linked to this gang (5)  
14 Bend one's knee to get information on flu etc. translated (9)  
17 Way first for churchgoer (9)  
19 Odd but amusing (5)  
21 Least space in which to wash one's hands? (8,4)  
24 Pearls ie scattered on lattice-work (8)  
25 Chucker-out does not finish the jump (6)  
26 Curtain project (6)  
27 Dismissing as contagious (8)

#### DOWN

- 2 Started part that was sharp-tasting (4)  
3 Divine swimmer? (9)  
4 Run fast, go quietly round everybody (6)  
5 Call it fifth-rate wood-destroyer (7)  
6 Unlawful, incorrect with three-quarters complete (8)  
7 Do better making excellent start (5)  
8 Not well for a short time and is easily beaten (4,6)  
12 Lullabies? (5,5)  
15 Boastful person making a lot of noise with the feature (9)  
16 Sticking notice on, he is upset (8)  
18 Thus Rita was held up inside - that's ironic (7)  
20 Deep cavity at last for marsupial (6)  
22 Released part of contract (5)  
23 Old Bob is able to glance (4)

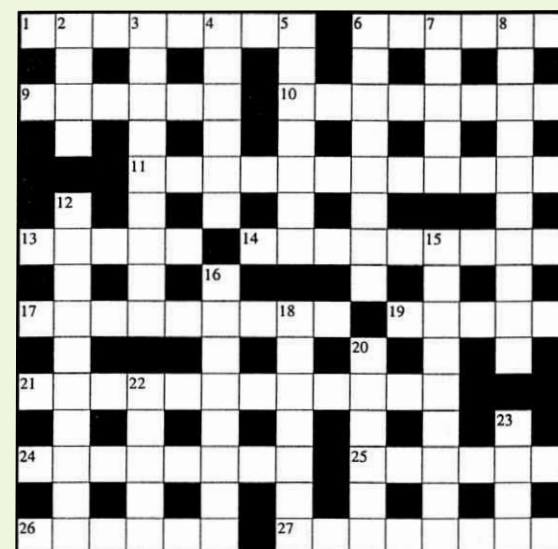
### QUICK CLUES

#### ACROSS

- 1 Followed (8)  
6 Pillar (6)  
9 Typewriter key (6)  
10 Fence of stakes (8)  
11 Photographic slide (12)  
13 Glean (anag.) (5)  
14 Deadlock (9)  
17 Wandered (9)  
19 Brush (5)  
21 Hurry (4,2,3,3)  
24 Nervous person (8)  
25 Extinct primate (6)  
26 Inscribed (6)  
27 Tolerance (8)

#### DOWN

- 2 Anticipation (4)  
3 Athletics event (9)  
4 Polish capital (6)  
5 Down payment (7)  
6 Blameworthy (8)  
7 Cotton thread (5)  
8 Decimation (anag.) (10)  
12 Amount saved (10)  
15 Illusory discovery (5-4)  
16 Joined again (8)  
18 Relating to morals (7)  
20 Horrified (6)  
22 Covered entrance (5)  
23 Hospital room (4)



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## SOLUTIONS

**ACROSS:** 1 Shadowed 6 Column 9  
2 Porch 23 Ward.  
3 Reunited 18 Ethical 20 Aghast 22  
4 Investment 15 Mare's-nest 16  
5 Culprable 7 Lisle 8 Medication 12  
6 the gas 24 Neurotic 25 Ape-man 26  
7 Etched 27 Latitude. **DOWN:** 2 Hope  
3 Meandered 19 Broom 21 Step on  
4 13 Angle 14 Stalemate 17  
5 Spacer 10 Palisade 11 Transparency  
6 **CRYPTIC SOLUTIONS No14**

**ACROSS:** 1 Amatory 5 Product  
2 Occlude 27 Lead off **DOWN:** 2  
3 Adhatic 24 Starry-eyed 25 Toot 26  
4 Writer's cramp 21 Amato 23  
5 13 Rotary 14 Beat a retreat 17  
6 9 Stat 10 Gobsnacked 12 Idolater  
7 Aromatic 18 Relayed 19 Abridge 20  
8 Bureaucracy 15 Replanted 16  
9 Remorse 7 Ducat 8 Clearway 11  
10 Malady 3 Tittlebat 4 Regatta 6  
11 Occlude 27 Lead off **DOWN:** 2  
12 the gas 24 Neurotic 25 Ape-man 26  
13 Meandered 19 Broom 21 Step on  
14 13 Angle 14 Stalemate 17  
15 Spacer 10 Palisade 11 Transparency  
16 **CRYPTIC SOLUTIONS No14**



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## YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



### AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

YOU could get lots of acclaim at work by conserving the company's resources. This is also a good time to hire extra help or invest in time saving machinery. A new group of people could make their way into your life. These friends could prompt you to expand your intellectual horizons. A female executive is poised to award you a plum position.



### TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

YOUR creative juices are flowing fast and furious. If inspiration strikes, stop what you're doing and focus your intuitive insight on this bright new idea. An exciting new phase of your love life begins this week. Money could come your way. Save it to travel or study, as 2008 will be rife with opportunities to do both.



### LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

PUTTING a little extra overtime can help your festive financial outgoings. You'll be in a better position to enjoy a romantic affair. Take care that you don't repeat past mistakes by showering expensive gifts on your amour. If this person truly cares for you, they won't demand expensive gifts and goodies.



### SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)

HELP with an ethical matter will be forthcoming this week. Follow an older person's advice regarding a hostile situation. A new source of income could come your way. Don't let a romantic partner or child persuade you to cancel business plans. You've got to seal this deal now, while the client is still keen. Friendship could turn to romance.



### PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

AN exciting career opportunity could come your way. Although the prospect of assuming a powerful position is daunting, it's also exciting and energising. Don't let anxiety stop you accepting an impressive job offer. Celebrate your good fortune by taking a glamorous trip with your beloved. Snap up the objects of your desire this week.



### GEMINI (May 22 - Jun 22)

A NEW phase of a close partnership begins this week, but you'll feel torn between your personal and professional lives. You could get into a heated argument with someone who seems paralysed with indecision and you're tired of being kept in limbo by their indecision. Fortunately, friends and family are squarely behind you.



### VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

FRIENDS can relieve you of dreaded chores in the countdown to Christmas so don't hesitate to ask for help if you need it. If you want to move or buy a new home, the next two weeks are ideal. Someone who is afraid that they can't move a property during the festive season may be anxious to cut you a deal.



### SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 21)

REVAMPING your looks puts you in the mood for the holiday season. Don't be surprised if an important executive starts throwing admiring glances your way. Trying to talk sense to an irrational relative will prove an exercise in futility so postpone this until after Christmas. Exerting your iron will could result in a journey or a new venture.



### ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

RETURNING to school or embarking on an extended trip will open new worlds for you. This is a mixed blessing as you're having so much fun at home. Still, you can't afford to pass up an opportunity like this. Fortunately, your friends and family are poised to give you a push. Look to them when you start feeling jittery.



### CANCER (Jun 23 - Jul 23)

IF IT has been difficult to broach a sensitive subject in the past this week brings a heaven sent opportunity to have a serious talk and get things sorted out before Christmas. A new job opportunity could fall into your lap and it may involve the chance to work from home or even give you a green light for starting your own business.



### LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

YOU can be a real power behind the scenes this week. Resist the lure of the spotlight, as you'll make much more progress working in the wings. An erratic colleague could start getting on your nerves now so be sure to make your wants and wishes crystal clear. That way you won't be implicated in any mistakes they might make.



### CAPRICORN (Dec 22 - Jan 20)

JOINING forces with a partner over an ethical matter is wise. When the opposition sees they are outnumbered, they will take the honourable route. You may crave solitary pleasures over the next two weeks. This could prove problematic with Christmas on the horizon. You must set boundaries if you're going to find time for the activities you love.

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No14

EASY

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8			6	9				3
		5		3	4		1	
3		1	5					

HARD

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2				4				
		1	2			6		

Fill the grid so  
that every column,  
every row and every  
3x3 box contains  
the digits 1 to 9

Last week's solutions

EASY

7	6	8	4	2	9	1	6	3
9	6	1	8	3	7	5	4	2
3	2	4	6	1	5	7	9	8
2	4	6	7	5	1	3	8	9
8	9	5	2	4	3	6	1	7
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6	3	7	5	8	4	9	2	1
4	8	2	1	9	6	3	7	5

HARD

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2	6	7	5	4	8	9	1	3
3	4	9	7	1	2	5	8	6



# yourmaidstone**television**

## PICK OF THE WEEKEND

### BBC one

**SATURDAY: STRICTLY COME DANCING (6pm):** The pressure is on as the remaining celebrities compete for a place in the final. All that stands between them and the final are three routines, including an Argentine tango.

**SUNDAY: ROBIN HOOD (4.05pm):** As Robin joins the quest to unravel the coded clues leading to the mysterious Thesaurus Patriae, Marian decides to act alone in helping Locksley villagers.

### BBC TWO

**SATURDAY: THE CULTURE SHOW (6.10pm):** The show's presenters look at the highlights of 2007, choosing their favourite moments.

**SUNDAY: EARTH: THE POWER OF THE PLANET (7pm):** Dr Iain Stewart travels to surfers' paradise Hawaii to learn more about oceans, explaining the difference between waves, tides and currents.

### itv

**SATURDAY: THE X-FACTOR FINAL (7.15pm):** The remaining three acts are joined by judges Simon Cowell, Sharon Osbourne, Dannii Minogue and Louis Walsh.

**SUNDAY: PARKINSON: THE FINAL CONVERSATION (9pm):** The talk show host rounds off his career with a bumper helping of chat, including Peter Kay, Sir Michael Caine, Sir David Attenborough and Dame Judi Dench

### 4

**SATURDAY: 100 GREATEST FUNNY MOMENTS (9.15pm):** A selection of slip-ups, laughs, gaffes and forgotten gags from chat-shows, hidden camera stunts, internet viral attachments and stand-up comedy spots.

**SUNDAY: ADDICTED TO PORN (11.25pm):** Documentary examining the nature of porn addiction and its human costs, as well as exploring the growing evidence that the condition has a chemical basis.

### five

**SATURDAY: GREMLINS (5.45pm):** Although Steven Spielberg ensures things don't get too nasty, this remains a wonderfully anarchic affair that is probably one of Hollywood's blackest mainstream hits.

**SUNDAY: CLOSER (9pm):** This all-star relationship drama follows a quartet of absurdly beautiful London urbanites.

# I didn't want to be the next Ken Barlow

■ BY BEN FALK

THERE are plenty of ways to be killed off in a soap, but being bludgeoned to death with a spanner by your on-screen daughter is pretty final. Such was the fate of actor Thomas Craig, who played Coronation Street mechanic Tommy Harris, in 2005.

"The initial contract was six months and I did two and a half years," says the 44-year-old, who obviously holds no grudges. "It was their decision."

In fact, dying was something of a release for Thomas who admits that he never wanted to be a long-standing cast member. "Who wants to be Ken Barlow?" he says.

It gave the father-of-two the impetus to move onto other projects, notably the new series of Blue Murder, in which he stars opposite Caroline Quentin's homely detective as a corrupt football agent.

"There's only half a dozen scenes, but it was a nice part," he says, from the backseat of a London cab, where he is on his way (and late thanks to terrible traffic) to pick up his children from school. He concedes he can't remember much of what he did in the show, other than "put on a nice suit and slick my hair", since he filmed the programme back in May.

"He represents a young footballer who gets murdered," he continues. "He's in the mix, because he's caught out lying to the police."

One suspects Thomas partly said yes because the role gave him a chance to talk about football, something he is more than



**MOVING ON:** Thomas Craig has no regrets about leaving Coronation Street after two and a half years

passionate about. Like his Corrie alter ego, he is a lifelong Sheffield Wednesday fan and tries to get to most games.

"I've got two kids now, so I've got to pick and choose my games," he says. In fact, although he acknowledges they are too young to fully comprehend the nature of fandom, he has been trying to slip a Wednesday shirt on them from time to time. "But my missus takes them off and tells me not to be stupid!"

Although he never played to a competitive level, Thomas has indulged a fantasy to compete professionally courtesy of Sky's reality show, The Match, in which he has taken part for the last three years. "I played

centre half," he remembers, proudly. "It was fantastic – 52,000 people at St James's Park."

While he may not have had the skill or pace to make it in footie, Thomas is enjoying an enviable career as an actor and doesn't regret his decision to quit his previous job as a plumber.

"I just got interested in it when I was about 19 or 20," he recalls. "I got involved in proper classes. The guy there said 'do you fancy drama school?' and I said yeah."

He went to the Academy Of Live And Recording Arts in London and after a three-year course found his way into the business as a supporting actor in shows like The Paradise Club, Casualty and Where The Heart Is. "My family thought I was crackers," he says. "Until I started appearing on TV, they didn't get it."

"I've always had a career where I work and then I don't work," he explains matter-of-factly. "It feels like I'm not successful, but I've just been out in Canada for four months doing a TV show out there (the forthcoming Murdoch Mysteries). I've not worked for a month and now I feel like I'll never work again!"

Now is concentrating on the future and is particularly excited about the Canadian show, in which he plays a police chief. The programme is made by the people behind The State Within and will broadcast over there, before probably transferring to UKTV Drama next year.

He's also looking forward to Christmas, which means a lot to him. "The last two Christmases I've done panto," he says. "But I'm not doing one this year, because I've not had a proper family Christmas for the past two years. This year it's going to be good."



**BLUE MURDER**  
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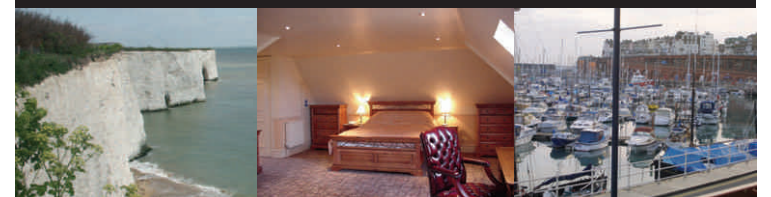


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## Hit all the right notes online

### Click your mouse, then your fingers

A VIDEO diary posted this week by aspiring singer Laura Warwick proves it's not just gig footage that gets catches fans' interest.

Admitting "I can be a bit goofy at times" Laura lets her hair down in an un-staged personal look at the recording process, bum notes and all.

Performing is obviously in her blood; her great uncles are none other than Ray and Dave Davies from the Kinks, but she says she is not in contact with them and "nor are they any sort of stepping stone to stardom... unfortunately."

Currently involved in a number of projects, from soul to hip hop Laura is working with several musicians from both sides of the Atlantic.

Upload your clips at [www.yourkenttv.co.uk](http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk).

### LIVE AND LOUD



**THE KINGSDOWN BAND:**  
A broad range of music, from from 60s classics through to current chart hits. This is the band at the Faversham Hop Festival earlier this year.



**GORDON GILTRAP:** Classical guitarist plays over video of UK amateur champion ballroom and latin dancers, Ian Sharpe and Victoria Lawrence, from Thanet, dancing to one of his songs.



**LAURA WARWICK:** Jazz and soul singer's studio diary, shot during the recording of her latest song Paradise, provides a snapshot of Laura at work in the studio.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
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**BEN MILLS:** Local lad performs Crazy Train at an impromptu gig. The X-factor runner-up has postponed his UK tour due to recording commitments, and a new album is planned for 2008.



**TIM POLLEY AND ROD DEXTER:** Clip of Whitstable songwriters' show Been There Street, with of 17 songs, a seven-piece band, four singers, two narrators and a technical crew of four.



**TURNSTYLE:** Maidstone band have been together for nearly 10 years and bring years of experience to the stage, playing at functions across London and the South East.

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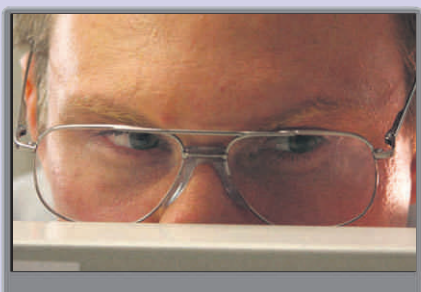
## ON GENERAL RELEASE

### YOU KILL ME (15)



Frank Falenczyk loves his job. He just happens to be a hitman for his Polish mob family in Buffalo, New York. But Frank's got a drinking problem and when he messes up a crucial assignment that puts his family business in peril, his uncle sends him to San Francisco to clean up his act.

### HE WAS A QUIET MAN (15)



Bob Maconel is about to have a bad day. On this particularly bad day, Bob crosses the line from potential killer to inadvertent hero and in the process saves Vanessa's life. This invisible nobody saves the object of his desire, only to have her ask him to end her life.

### CODE NAME: THE CLEANER (PG)



Cedric the Entertainer plays Jake, a seemingly regular guy who has no idea who he is after being hit over the head by mysterious assailants. When he finds himself entangled in a government conspiracy, Jake and his pursuers become convinced he is an undercover agent.

# Star reveals secrets of a golden world

■ BY BEN FALK

IT'S a film based on a controversial but much-loved book trilogy – with a young hero on a quest helped by brave souls in a world full of darkness, magic and mystical creatures.

If this all sounds very Lord Of The Rings, it's because New Line Cinema, the company which wagered its fortunes on the film version of Tolkien's classic tomes, is doing the same again with a spectacular adaptation of the first novel in Philip Pullman's His Dark Materials series.

The Golden Compass is rumoured to be the most expensive movie ever made, with an estimated budget of more than £120 million.

It stars Nicole Kidman and Daniel Craig, but the story really rests on the shoulders of a 13-year-old newcomer called Dakota Blue Richards, who plays Lyra Belacqua, a precocious child who finds herself caught up in a mystery of epic proportions.

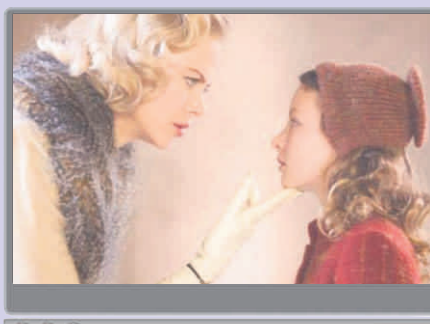
"I hope it doesn't affect my normal life too much," says the young actress, who lives in Brighton, Sussex. "Whenever I'm not in work, I'm back in school and just a normal pupil. I'd hate for the people at school to see me differently because of the film."

She might not have much of a choice. Already expected to be this year's major blockbuster, The Golden Compass is being presented as the first chapter in a three-part franchise, capitalising on the popularity of the books.

The novels are known for their complex themes, as well as their supposed anti-Catholic bias, which makes summing up the plot rather tricky.

## VIEW THIS PREVIEW

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In short, we are introduced to Lyra who lives in an alternative version of our world, she witnesses some shady behaviour by clerical body the Magisterium, meets her uncle Lord Asriel (Craig), befriends then evades the cold and calculating Mrs Coulter (Kidman), before heading north to rescue her friend Roger, who has been kidnapped by... well, you'll just have to see it to find out.

Making the journey more interesting are the various beasts she encounters along the way.

Not only does she enlist the help of a talking armoured bear (voiced by Sir Ian McKellen), but one of the conceits of the story is that in this universe, every person has their own demon, which is a physical manifestation of their personality or soul, in animal form.

Lord Asriel is a dark horse. Though dashing



**NEWCOMER:** Teenager Dakota Blue Richards, stars in the new fantasy film The Golden Compass

and mercurial, the twists and turns of the plot mean you are never quite sure of his intentions. And for Daniel, basking in the success of his first outing as Bond in Casino Royale, there were no qualms about plunging into another recurring role.

"It didn't bother me at all," he says. "That sounds like I have some grand plan, but it wasn't like that. It was a happy accident that it came up."

The father-of-one also revelled in sharing the screen with a raw youngster. "I get a big kick out of it," he explains. "You've got to work very hard and keep them enthused because it's a long day and the kids' energy levels go down. Dakota learned very quickly though and I teased her a lot."



**THE GOLDEN COMPASS**  
Certificate PG

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# Clarkes decide it's time to sit back and relax

■ BY LAUREN MUMFORD

A FAMILY business that has been running for more than 75 years is being sold to a leading Kent-based furniture store.

After many years of happy trading the Clarke family decided it was time to hang up their sales jackets and sell Clarkes Furnishings to Lenleys of Canterbury.

The business, which was set up and run by members of the Clarke family since its launch in the 1930s, had been passed down through two generations.

But it was now felt by managing director Richard Clarke that it was time to sell the business, retire and relax.

The furniture store in Sandling Road, Maidstone, exchanged hands at the start of this month.

## Established

Lenleys is also a family-run business, established in the 1930s and run by the second generation of the family.

Mr Clarke said: "Our family has been honoured and proud to have served our customers and we will miss them as well as our many friends in the trade."

"Lenleys is a business very similar to ours – we know they will continue to take the same care of our customers and staff. We are pleased we are able to sell to a company who will retain Clarkes individuality."

Jonathan Watts, managing director of Lenleys, said: "We are delighted to have bought Clarkes – it's a fantastic business."

"I can assure both regular and new customers that Clarkes and Lenleys



**CHANGING HANDS?** Clarkes Furnishers has been bought out by Lenleys of Canterbury

reputation for good value, quality and great service will continue to be the priority, and the store will continue to trade as Clarkes Furnishings."



**SELLING UP:** (l-r) Clarkes Furnishers directors Richard Clarke and Chris Clarke, with new owners Jonathan Watts and sister Janine Greenfield of Lenleys of Canterbury, which has bought the family-run business which first opened in the 1930s

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## Celebrate Christmas in Calais

■ BY NICK AMES AND MARIJKE COX

A CONTINENTAL Christmas is just an hour away as Calais celebrates a joyeux noel with festive wine, food and fun.

One of Europe's largest roller coasters forms the centrepiece of the celebrations which have transformed the town over the holiday season.

It was put up on December 1 and is open until January 6, it is in position outside the historic town hall.

A Christmas parade took place at the weekend, which marked the latest stage in the festivities which commenced on the last day of November, when the Christmas lights were switched on.

Starting at the Place Crevecoeur and finishing in the Place d'Armes, spectators watched a fire and light show as gypsy horsemen galloped by and traditional music played.

Refreshments were provided at the finale with the local delicious chicken soup – a speciality of the nearby village of Licques – top of the menu.

The last few days have also seen a spectacular circus called Zavata come to the town, which featured clowns, jugglers and other performers.

A special children's village opens on Saturday, which is created out of timber. Attractions include a roundabout, fishing for ducks and a skittle alley. There is also a crèche for younger children.

Also, from Saturday a 'land train' will take visitors across the town and drop them off at



**DELIGHTFUL:** The Christmas market at Calais has become a great festive day out

various attractions. And for those with romance in mind, a horse drawn carriage is another option to see the sights.

A spokesman for the town said: "This is the biggest Christmas extravaganza we have ever seen in Calais. We are really looking forward to welcoming our English friends and showing what we have to offer."

"For a long time, Calais has been associated with a quick trip across to bring back wine and beer – but there is so much more here. There is history, the local countryside and some very smart restaurants, bars and hotels."

"We also have a huge range of shops selling

the best of local produce – meats, cheeses, wines and handicrafts.

"This is our opportunity to showcase what we have to offer and give people the chance to appreciate a truly French Christmas just an hour away from the shores of England."

In France, Christmas is a time for family and for generosity, marked by family reunions, gifts and candy for children, gifts for the poor, Midnight Mass, and le Réveillon.

In northern France, the Christmas season begins on 6 December, la fête de Saint Nicolas.

The country also has its own unique Christmas traditions.

French children put their shoes in front of the fireplace, in the hopes that Père Noël will fill them with gifts. Candy, fruit, nuts, and small toys will also be hung on the tree overnight.

In 1962, a law was passed decreeing that all letters written to Santa would be replied to with a postcard. When a class writes a letter, each student gets a response.

And this being France, food is very much on the menu, with traditional turkeys and goose featuring as the main course, with the local pureed crab a particular Calais delight.

Delicious desserts include La bûche de Noël (Yule log), made of chocolate and chestnuts. It represents the special wood log burned from Christmas Eve to New Year's Day in the Périgord, which is a holdover from a pagan Gaul celebration.

Also popular is La Galette des Rois (on Epiphany) – a round cake which is cut into pieces and distributed by a child, known as le petit roi or l'enfant soleil, hiding under the table. Whoever finds la fève – the charm hidden inside – is king or queen and can choose a partner.



**FESTIVE FAYRE:** Calais Christmas Extravaganza

### Fact File: Calais

Time difference	+One hour (GMT)
Currency	Euros approx 1.425 to £1 (rate varies)
Region	Nord Pas de Calais
Language	French
Religion	Roman Catholic majority
Climate	Temperate

### Visit details

You can get to Calais direct from Dover with P&O Ferries, or SeaFrance. Crossing times are around 90 minutes and foot passengers can take the free bus straight into the centre of the town.

Norfolkline sails from Dover to Dunkerque, which has its own Christmas programme but Calais is short drive along the coast.



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## WOMEN'S SPOTLIGHT

**FANCY THIS?**  
Natasha, 21, 5'8", WLTm Mr Right. Single mum of 1, like shopping, clubbing, relaxing... Why don't we do these things together? We can if you call! Box 901622 **1 2**

**LOOK ME UP**  
24yr old single mother of 2, very bubbly and fun to be with, looking for happy-go-lucky guy to show me a good time. Box 432026 **1**

**TAKE HEART**  
Crystal, 24, brunette, blue eyes, petite, likes music, art, films, swimming, country walks, WLTm friendly guy for friendship maybe more. Box 432235 **1**

**LIVELY UP YOURSELF**  
Lively female, 26, 5'12, brown hair, green eyes, size 10, single mum, enjoys most things, seeks genuine, laid-back guy for fun, friendship and more. Box 428555 **1**

**LOVE TO LAUGH**  
Full-time mum, 26, loves pubs, clubs, cinema, family days out, GSOH, likes socialising, relaxing, looking for honest, loyal, fun, romantic person who's a N/S. Box 900347 **1 2**

**DESPERATELY SEEKING SUSAN?**  
Susan, 33, long hair, hazel eyes, tanned, enjoys the usual things in life, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 429879 **1**

**RING MY BELLE!**  
Hi, I'm Annabelle, 32, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, divorced, 2 children, WLTm a tall, local man, enjoys sport, shopping and relaxing. Tonbridge. Box 420609 **1**

**CANTERBURY TALE**  
Single mum of 2, 32, would like to meet someone kind, caring and considerate, for nights in/out, cinema. Box 406670 **1**

**AFRICAN ADVENTURE**  
African lady, 33, brown eyes, likes socialising, music, pubs, cinema, seeks male for friendship and more. Box 413128 **1**

**LESSONS IN LOVE**  
Loving, caring, black African female, 33, school teacher, WLTm caring, honest, loving, open, professional man, 35-50 with good values in life, for something meaningful. Box 422460 **1**

**TRY NEW THINGS**  
Mum of 1, I'm 5'4, blonde hair, slim, young looking, 34yrs old, I'm caring, honest, with a GSOH, like keep-fit, cinema, dancing, days out. Box 431559 **1 2**

**R U THE 1?**  
Outgoing, funny, young-looking female, 34, 5'13, brown hair/eyes, East Peckham, nr Tonbridge, seeks caring, loyal male for friendship/more. Box 433107 **1 2**

**YOURS FOREVER!**  
Active, affectionate female, 35, 5'13, blonde, blue eyes, likes cinema, walking, cycling, swimming, wrestling, WLTm tall, dark & handsome bloke. Box 430932 **1**

**TRUST MATTERS**  
Independent, professional female, 35, 5'7, fit, GSOH, enjoy travelling, cinema, looking for a like-minded, honest and loyal male to share life with. Box 901774 **1 2**

**THE EYES HAVE IT**  
Attractive, trendy, outgoing, warm female, 30, dark brown eyes are a big feature, curvy but slim, like country pubs etc. WLTm spontaneous male for LTR. Box 403299 **1 2**

**SECURE FUTURE**  
Honest, caring lady, attractive, from Tunbridge Wells, 37, hazel eyes, curvy, 5'16, with a GSOH, many interests, clubs, cooking, cosy nights. Looking for stocky male, 35-45. Box 424364 **1 2**

**MISSING MALE COMPANY**  
Chatty female, 36, 5'4", single mum, blonde, slim, likes pubs, clubs, going out, having fun, seeks male, for fun nights out and giggles. Rochester. Box 372889 **1**

**THE WIT TO WOO!**  
Kent female, 39, 5'7", dark eyes, GSOH, no ties, likes cosy nights in, socialising, country pubs, cinema, seeks loyal, caring male, for friendship & more. Box 152862 **1**

**FUTURE PERFECT**  
38yr old lively, down 2 earth female, GSOH, enjoy all life's pleasures, looking for relationship Box 920397 **1 2**

**LOVING TOUCH**  
39yr old single mum, own house, 5'7", brown hair, seeking a kind-hearted man for companionship. Box 433637 **1**

**GET IT TOGETHER**  
Kind, caring, spiritual lady, 39, 5'4", average build, hazel puppy-dog eyes, brown hair, looking for genuine, honest guy, non-smoker, friendship first. Box 895694 **1**

**NEVER SAY NEVER**  
Decent 36yr old female, medium build, fair hair, 5'6", likes cinema, eating & having fun, seeks like-minded male, 36-40, for friendship first. Box 739664 **1**

**NOT FOOTBALL CRAZY**  
Divorced, affectionate lady, 40, large build, 5'6", love staying in, cinema, looking for a thoughtful male to share good things in life, leading to LTR. Box 430332 **1**

**LOVE TO MEET YOU**  
Kind woman, 42, outgoing, happy-go-lucky, sometimes shy, I like gardening, socialising, travel, walks. Looking for happy, fun fella. Aylesford Box 428464 **1**

**TAKE A CHANCE**  
Hard-working female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent man who values TLC. Box 414156 **1**

**FOOTBALL FANATIC**  
Deal-based lady, 43, divorced, brunette, green eyes, 5'10, likes going out, pubs, clubs, cinema, shopping, walks, loves films and all sports except cricket. Box 430384 **1 2**

**A FINE ROMANCE**  
Pleasant female, 43, medium/large build, blue/green eyes, grown up children, beach walks, relaxing, reading, winning, seeks sincere male with GSOH, for LTR. Box 429071 **1**

**READ ALL ABOUT IT**  
Petite, sincere woman, 44, wavy blonde hair, blue eyes, size 10, loves beach walks, animals, DIY, swimming, travelling, WLTm N/S man to share things with. Box 429682 **1**

**STOP PRESS!**  
Friendly, N/S female, 44, medium build, long hair, WLTm N/S male. 44-55 for fun, laughter, possible relationship. Ramsgate. Box 903566 **1**

**DON'T PASS ME BY**  
Friendly, bubbly, fun-loving woman, 45, 5'4", GSOH, enjoys socialising, pubs, music, eating in/out, own home/car, smoker, looking for honest man 44-55, who enjoys life. Box 823441 **1 2**

**LOVE 2 SHARE**  
45yr old medium build, attractive lady, blonde hair, blue eyes, likes dining out, meals, cinema, WLTm a trustworthy, loyal male to share my life with. Box 426617 **1**

**NICE AND LOVING**  
44yr old female, 55", brown hair, slim/medium build, enjoys pubs, clubs, if you are out there, give me a ring! Maidstone Box 413448 **1**

**BE ORIGINAL!**  
Sincerely, honesty, and intelligence, is that just too much to ask for? With a hint of cheekiness, I'm 46 from the Maidstone area. Box 156956 **1 2**

**KNOW HOW TO TREAT A LADY?**  
Blonde haired, attractive female, 46, 5'14, slim, GSOH, seeking good-looking, slim, kind, trendy male, 35-45, with a GSOH, and fantastic personality. Sheerness Box 432618 **1**

**STIMULATING COMPANY**  
Bubbly, caring, single mum, 46, WLTm nice male, for good conversations, company, and maybe more. Box 396829 **1**

**READY TO START AGAIN**  
Hi, I'm Sue, 48, 5'2", dark hair/eyes, divorced, hard-working, WLTm compatible male, stocky build, for good times, possibly LTR. Box 432992 **1**

**ALL THAT I NEED**  
Young-looking, slim, attractive female, 48, fun-loving & outgoing, N/S, GSOH, love music, holidays, going out & staying in, seeks similar man, 42-50. Aylesford. Box 428833 **1**

**BRIGHTON UP MY WORLD**  
Loving and loyal 49yr old female, GSOH, enjoys walking, countryside, cinema, theatre, pubs, restaurants, music, travel, seeks sincere and loving male between 48-56 for friendship. Box 909974 **1**

**CANTERBURY CONNECTION**  
Attractive, blonde woman, 5'4", 49, enjoys the gym, cooking, cinema, theatre, travel and restaurants, seeks male for friendship. Box 388091 **1 2**

**FEEL THE MAGIC**  
Slim female, 51, long dark brown hair, brown eyes, 5'16, well groomed, very easygoing and tactile, GSOH, enjoys socialising, nights in/out, eating out, cinema walks Box 434052 **1**

**EVENING PRIMROSE**  
Primrose, 51, divorced with 3 children and 2 grandchildren. I'm 5'12, with dark hair, looking for someone for companionship. Box 433580 **1**

**ARE YOU LONESOME TONIGHT?**  
Loyal, bubbly and affectionate, attractive lady, 51, dark hair, enjoy clubs, nights in, love animals, seeking a like-minded gent for happiness. Box 433585 **1**

**LOVE TRAIN**  
Young-looking 51yr old woman, seeking a kind, genuine man, between 48-51, for fun and friendship, maybe romance. Box 432406 **1**

**LOVE IS IN THE HAIR!**  
Sue, 51, slim, blue eyes, brunette, ladies hairdresser, looking for someone special. How about you? Box 431904 **1**

**AM I THE 1?**  
48yr old divorcee, 55", dark hair, hazel eyes, like dancing, cinema, days/nights out. WLTm a man who would like to share some good times. Box 901027 **1 2**

**TAKE IT AS RED-HEAD**  
Female, 51, 5'6", attractive, redhead, green eyes, seeking professional, male soulmate, 45-55. West Kent. Box 477686 **1**

**COUNTING ON YOU**  
Lonely, honest lady, 52, enjoy walks, cycling, travel, WLTm sociable gent to share interests and possibly leading to LTR. Box 399420 **1**

**NEED COMPANY**  
Blonde female, 54, 5'15, cuddly, seeking friendship, with someone who can make me laugh. Fed up of being alone. Smardham Box 433682 **1**

**DIG DEEPER**  
Canterbury lady, 56, recently divorced, looking for a genuine relationship. I like gardening, home life, going out, seeking a male companion. Box 428242 **1**

**I DREAM OF DOMESTICITY!**  
Attractive, homely, caring 55yr old lady, 5'2", slim/medium build, GSOH, good conversationalist, looking for special person to share life's ups and downs with. Faversham. Box 406928 **1**

**EFFERVESCENT ELEGANCE**  
Young-at-heart, lively, sociable lady, 56, 5'6", blue eyes, blonde, GSOH, WLTm understanding, down-to-earth gent, for company, maybe romance. Box 403745 **1**

**NOT ASKING FOR MUCH**  
Fun loving, bubbly, tactile lady, 50s, enjoys the good life, holidays and cosy nights in, I'm voluptuous & looking for a real man. Box 903560 **1 2**

**PLANT THE SEEDS**  
Classy, intelligent, divorced, attractive lady, 59, slim & active; enjoys travel, walking holidays, sport, gardening. WLTm sincere, intelligent gentleman initially for friendship, maybe more. Box 910138 **1**

**NEW FOUNDATIONS**  
Solvent, cuddly female, 59, 5'1", love the countryside, foreign travel, seeks happy, solvent male, 50s-62, for affection and TLC. Box 394179 **1**

**THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT**  
Widowed woman, 61, no ties, positive outlook, kind nature with GSOH, like the usual things and would like to find a male counterpart. Box 431210 **1**

**KEEPEE DANCING!**  
Brunette lady, 61, looking for a LTR, friendship first, any age considered. Interests: dancing walking, socialising, cuddling! Margate. Box 432245 **1**

**EXPERIENCE ALL THAT'S BEST**  
Divorced lady, 61, N/S, medium build, loves movies, classic music, comedy, restaurants, cooking, gardening, reading, driving, seeks tactile man, for something special. Box 424898 **1**

**LADY IN WAITING**  
Cuddly, loving lady, 64, who loves nice conversations, staying in, winning/dining, loves animals, gardening, WLTm considerate, faithful gent for companionship. Box 427579 **1**

**TAKE MY BREATH AWAY**  
Very caring, young at heart, black lady, 63, varied interests, GSOH seeking a N/S, caring gentleman, 58-69, to share happy times. Box 424122 **1**

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**LIMITED OFFER**  
Caring female, 70, 5'17, blonde with blue eyes, slim, widowed, very young & active, likes playing cards, socialising, oil painting, animals, seeks male counterpart. Box 432568 **1**

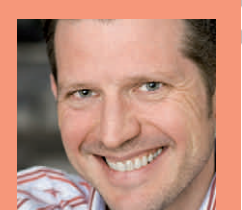
## Women seeking women

**SIZZLING!**  
Sociable female, 24, 5'12, long hair, hazel eyes, enjoys the beach, cooking, barbecues, clubs, pubs, looking for female mates, maybe more. Box 428658 **1**

**LOVE TO LAUGH**  
Loving, young 25yr old female with a kind heart and passion for life, short hair, blue eyes, like music, socialising, seeks a like-minded female. Box 431117 **1**

**FUN 2 BE WITH**  
Hi, I'm an attractive 39 yr old feminine female, looking for a caring female for friendship and fun. Box 899207 **1**

**PASSIONATE SCORPIO**  
Cuddly, buxom female, 46, blue eyes, very feminine, loves music, animals, reading, writing, stars, very genuine, meals in/out, seeking boyish female, who's loving and caring Box 433152 **1**



## MEN'S SPOTLIGHT

**CUDDLE UP**  
Big and kind-hearted, I'm 22, large build, 6'14, into cycling and swimming, cinema, restaurants, cosy nights in, WLTm women between 20-30 for friendship and more... Box 898655 **1 2**

**SPORTS MAD**  
Hard-working male, 5'10, brown hair/eyes, looking for a quiet, down-to-earth female, who enjoys sports and going out. Box 434255 **1**

**ANIMAL LOVER**  
Friendly chap with a lot of love to give. I'm fun-loving, 26yrs old, looking for a fun, outgoing girl, who likes to have a laugh. Box 900321 **1**

**TOP OF THE TOWER**  
Sweet guy, 31, 5'8, athletic build, looking for a possible long term relationship, or fun dates out. Box 898885 **1 2**

**LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL**  
32yr old down-to-earth, happy-go-lucky, considerate male, looking for a lively female to share happy moments with. Box 434226 **1**

**A LOVE SUPREME**  
Caring, honest and genuine male, with a good heart, 34, love eating out, country pubs, uncomplicated, looking for someone with similar qualities. Box 900141 **1 2**

**EXPLOSIVE PERSONALITY**  
Wicked sense of humour, old romantic, likes cycling, walking, live music, club/pubs. Sound good? I'm male, 35, seeking lady for friendship possibly more. Ramsgate Box 905588 **1 2**

**REAL MAN**  
36yr old honest, kind, caring, single male, blond, 6'11, like walks, cinema, nights in/out, enjoy family life, WLTm like-minded, genuine female. Box 430440 **1**

**R U 4 ME?**  
Down to earth and loyal guy, 36, looking for companionship, leading to a long-term relationship. Enjoys meals out, good company & conversation, cosy evenings in. Box 914917 **1 2**

**FINALLY FOUND YOU**  
Good-looking male 35, 5'8", no ties, enjoys pubs, restaurants, holidays, bowling, theme parks and more, seeks petite female, to share good times with. Ashford Box 198029 **1**

**INTERESTED?**  
Spirited guy, 6', dark hair, brown eyes, enjoy football, WLTm broad-minded young lady. Box 415892 **1**

**DELIGHTFUL DARREN**  
Darren, 38, loving, caring and trustworthy, 5'10, medium build, enjoys most things in life, seeks fun loving lady, to enjoy life with. Box 434234 **1**

**BRIGHTER DAYS**  
Divorced male, 38, 5'10, blue eyes, no ties, likes motorsport, the gym, country pubs, wine bars, cycling, seeks spontaneous, fun woman for fun/laughter. Box 434217 **1**

**FANCY THIS**  
Jason, 38, 5'10, likes meals out, pubs, cinema, cycling, seeks genuine female for friendship, good times. Box 433326 **1**

**MAKING SWEET MUSIC**  
Romantic male, 38, 6'11, blue eyes, medium/muscular build, enjoy socialising, cosy nights in, music, looking for a loving, fun-filled female for happiness. Box 433795 **1**

**SPORTS MAD**  
Single male, 39 years old, 2 sons, very interested in all kinds of sports, seeking a lovely lady. Box 899774 **1 2**

**LIKE TO HAVE FUN**  
Fit 39 year old male, looking for ladies of all ages for fun and friendship, I'm fit with good looks and physique with GSOH. Box 900426 **1**

**A SPARKLE**  
Hi, I'm a down-to-earth male, 40, 5'7", medium build, green eyes, loves outdoors, sports, beach walks etc, WLTm an outgoing female for good times. Box 899004 **1**

**DON'T DELAY, CALL TODAY**  
Attractive, independent, professional male, 40, OHAC, loves winning/dining, the sun, holidays, cinema, seeks occasionally, seeking a fun, sincere, loving female, to enjoy each others company. Box 434103 **1**

**INDIAN GUY**  
Hi, I'm a relaxed, hard-working male, enjoy driving out, cinema, meals out, looking for my soulmate for fun times and companionship. Box 433305 **1**

**COULD WE BE MAGIC?**  
Single male, 40 years old, 5'14, medium build, dark hair, brown eyes, looking for a bubbly, adventurous female, who's fun to be with. Box 433540 **1 2**

**GAZ AUTOMATIC!**  
Hi, I'm Gary, 40yr old male, 5'11", muscular, tall, dark hair, enjoys most sports, looking for lady to share the finer things in life. Box 430142 **1**

**TWO'S COMPANY**  
Thoughtful male, 41, 6'11, shaved head, blue eyes, medium to stocky build, looking for a caring female to share good times. Box 899053 **1 2**

**FUN-LOVING AND EASYGOING**  
Great guy, young looking, 42, no ties, I'm 5'17, stocky build, fit, short hair/hazel eyes, been called handsome! I'm sporty, a non-smoker and enjoy holidays. Box 431226 **1 2**

**OH YES**  
Simon, 53, 6'2", love the good times, like intelligent conversations, like going out, live bands, WLTm a cheerful, sociable female. Box 431425 **1**

**SHINE TOGETHER**  
Slim male, 42, 5'11, genuine, reliable, N/S, likes all the usual things in life, WLTm genuine, down-to-earth lady, for friendship, dates, relationship. Gillingham area Box 425419 **1 2**

**ROMANTIC AT HEART**  
Steve, 43, brown hair, green eyes, loves country pubs/walks, cosy nights in, swimming, GSOH, N/S, 5'17, seeks similar, loving lady, Medway Box 901155 **1 2**

**BIG DEAL IN DEAL**  
Warm, tactile male, 42, 6'11, likes socialising, pubs, clubs, cosy nights in, seeks like minded female, for friendship, leading to more. Box 388967 **1**

**LET'S CONNECT**  
Reliable, thoughtful, professional male, 42, 6'2", dark hair, hazel eyes, GSOH, enjoys music, sports, cinema, meals out, WLTm like-minded, attractive female for friendship, possibly more. Box 397492 **1**

**IRISH EYES ARE SMILING**  
Sincere, stocky southern Irish guy, skin-head, no ties, 43, enjoys motor racing, pubs, cinema, the good life, discos, seeks lady to share life. Kent. Box 417532 **1**

**TWOS COMPANY**  
Michael, 43, 5'10, medium build, dark hair/eyes, hardworking, likes cooking, sports, disco, walks, seeks similar female for good company. Box 427395 **1**

**TRY ANYTHING ONCE**  
Caring, understanding, honest 43 year old male, enjoys walks, swimming, reading, seeking a 45-55 year old lady. Chatham Box 429701 **1**

**SUCCESSFUL AND SINGLE**  
Good looking male, 42, 6'2", well built, muscular, fit, enjoys cars, motorbikes, golf, rugby, socialising, travel, seeks female for friendship, leading to serious relationship. Box 158489 **1**

**ON YOUR MARKS...**  
Tall, fun-loving, good-looking former athlete, 44, lived in USA many years, likes music, sports cars, looking for dark haired or exotic lady, GSOH, for LTR. Ashford Box 430121 **1**

**MIX 'N MATCH**  
Young-at-heart 44yr old male, blond hair, blue eyes, easygoing nature, likes eating out, music, cinema etc, WLTm adventurous, witty, fit female for possible LTR. Box 432940 **1**

**LOVE AND RESPECT ON OFFER**  
Honest, sincere, reliable male, 44, 5'17, medium build, likes sports, music, beach walks, country pubs. Box 433914 **1**

**CATCH A FALLING STAR**  
44-year-old man, interests include socialising, days out, keeping fit, days out, seeking a caring, honest female, to share fun times. Box 433992 **1**

**GO FOR IT**  
Michael, 44, fair hair, blue eyes, no ties, likes travelling, pubs, socialising, driving, seeks down-to-earth female for friendship and more. Box 434111 **1**

**RING MY BELL**  
45yr old thoughtful, reliable male, 5'2", GSOH, gentle personality, love pubs, nights in, gardening etc, WLTm a like-minded, caring lady for companionship. Box 431171 **1**

**STOPI! HAMMER TIME**  
Hard-working, loving, loyal, honest man, 45, OHAC, enjoys cinema, West Ham, weekends away, life, lot of love to give, seeking my soulmate, 40-48, slim/medium build. Box 431914 **1**

**LIFE'S PLEASURES**  
Hi, I'm 44 years old, with short light brown hair and blue eyes. I enjoy cinema/theatre, pubs and meals out, walks and weekends away. Box 903358 **1 2**

**CANTERBURY CUDDLES**  
46yr male, 5'17, enjoys cinema, socialising, meals out, long walks on the beach, looking for a special lady, for fun, friendship, maybe more. Box 432611 **1**

**FAMILY GUY**  
Laid-back guy, 46 years old, kids all grown up, looking for friendship, perhaps leading to more with a lady 36-50, with or without kids Box 433410 **1**

**ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR!**  
Youthful dad, 45, 5'10", brown hair, med build, divorcee, likes pubs, cinema, restaurants, theme parks, WLTm female, 36-45, slim, for possible LTR. Cranbrook Box 737529 **1**

**LOTS OF LOVE 2 GIVE**  
Ordinary guy, 49, who likes the simple things in life. I smoke and don't drive. Looking for a partner to share things with. Box 901111 **1**

**LOTS OF SMILES**  
Warm, sincere, N/S, eligible, stimulating, male, 46, well groomed, OHAC, 5'10", slim/medium, settled but playful, seeks similar lady to share LTR and smiles. Box 924095 **1 2**

**BE HERE NOW!**  
Tony, 48, 5'17, medium build, likes winning/dining, music, walks, movies, nights in, looking for someone romantic to share life with hopefully. Box 430219 **1**

**YOUTHFUL EXUBERANCE**  
Easygoing, genuine, young-looking male, slim, 50, brown eyes, 5'10, GSOH, enjoys indoors and outdoors, seeks slim, attractive female, 30+, for friendship, possible LTR. Box 901764 **1**

**LOVEABLE AND KIND**  
Loyal, honest male, 55, 5'11", blue eyes, divorced, enjoys walks, eating out/in, cinema, shopping etc, seeks lady 40-50, GSOH, for romance/love. Box 410846 **1**

**A GREAT CATCH**  
Sensitive, loyal, attentive, playful male, 51, enjoys gym, live music, cinema, meals out, walks, conversation, WLTm female, 45-65 for trust, friendship/possible relationship. Whitstable. Box 181246 **1**

**SENSE OF FUN**  
Young 54yr old single male, no ties, generally easygoing, likes most things in life, WLTm lady to enjoy nice times, good company/relationship. Box 429955 **1**

**ON GUARD**  
Gary, 55 years old, 6'3", large build, ex doorman, solvent, looking for someone to love and to have fun times with. Box 900009 **1 2**

**CHEER ME UP**  
Passionate, fun-loving male, 57, WLTm curvaceous, good looking female, 40-60, for nice times and romantic nights out. Box 400561 **1**

**LOTS TO GIVE**  
Decent bloke, 60yrs old, I'm 5'16, medium build, and enjoy gardening, music, reading. I have a GSOH and I'm just missing that special lady. Box 433558 **1**

**CHEER ME UP**  
Hi, I'm a genuine, tall, good-looking, easygoing, retired, tactile male, 60, GSOH, looking for a fun, intelligent lady, 45+, to share life with. Box 434226 **1**

**DON'T STOP WINNING**  
Roger, 60, 5'11, blue eyes, loves life & having fun, seeks happy, content lady for LTR. Box 431025 **1**

**R U OUT THERE?**  
Hi my name's Steve, 62, own business, 5'10", blue eyes, short black hair, like cosy nights in, holidays, animals, seek female, for love and romance. Box 432275 **1**

**FRIENDLY IN FOLKESTONE**  
Open and honest 64 year old, divorced male, enjoys walks and talks, meals in or out, seeks lady of similar disposition, for friendship possibly more. Box 898863 **1**

**DOVER SOUL**  
Easygoing, fun male, 68yr old widower, GSOH, looking for a nice, bubbly female to share outings and maybe more together. Dover. Box 414847 **1**

## Men seeking men

**CALL TO FIND OUT MORE!**  
26yr old open-minded male, GSOH, into most things in life, looking for a relaxed guy for friendship. Box 429470 **1**

**1-2-1**  
Folkestone male, 32, loves pubbing, clubbing, driving, good times, seeks like-minded male, for fun and laughter. Box 177479 **1**

**NEW LAD**  
Mixed race male, 34, 5'11", average build, like going out, sports etc. looking for fun, friendship, maybe more with younger guy. Ashford/surrounding area. Box 900477 **1**

**SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES?**  
I'm Paul, 40, genuine, down-to-earth, 5'9", GSOH, brown hair, blue eyes, average build, likes movies, DIY, theatre, keeping fit, travelling, looking for young male, non-smoker. Box 423252 **1 2**

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**AMAZING ACE!**  
Confident female, 28, 5'10, medium build, brown hair, blue eyes, into most things in life, seeks genuine guy for friendship and more. Box 434229 **1**

**MAJESTIC IN MARGATE**  
Single mum, 29, 5'11, brown hair/blue eyes, I'm new to Margate, and I'm looking for a guy with a GSOH. I enjoy going out, socialising etc. Box 431105 **1**

**HONESTY & HUMOUR PLEASE!**  
Attractive female, 29, size 8-10, 5'8", long hair/blue eyes, enjoys gym, cinema, dancing, seeking honest, reliable male 27-38 with a GSOH, for friendship possible LTR. Box 410494 **1**

**BLACK IS BEAUTIFUL**  
Black, beautiful, curvy, single mum, 31, enjoys outdoors, cooking, home-life, cosy nights in, eating out, cinema, looking for tall, sincere gentleman for friendship/relationship. Box 432283 **1**

**ANIMAL LOVER**  
Honest, loyal, caring lady, 32, hard-working, 5'10, medium build, likes eating out, spending time with friends/family, meeting new people, going to new places, seeking similar Box 432586 **1**

**HEART & SOUL**  
Sincere female, 32, 5'12, blonde, blue eyes, family lady, enjoys clubbing, cinema, cooking, animals, seeks like minded male for friendship/relationship. Box 433214 **1**

**LOVE IS ALL YOU NEED**  
Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013 **1**

**DRIVE ME CRAZY**  
Creative, happy, loving female, 32, 5'11, blonde/blue eyes, seeks kind, warm, sincere, patient male, with a car, to share my life with. Box 392354 **1**

**SWEET CAROLINE**  
Caroline, 32, 5'10, brown hair, likes going out, having fun, cinema, seeks outgoing male for friendship and more. Box 430533 **1 2**

**RESCUE ME**  
Mum of 2 boys, 32, GSOH, easygoing, seeking an honest, genuine man. Get in touch soon x Box 432066 **1**

**BETTER DAYS**  
Sincere female, 35, 5'13, brunette, likes the gym, staying in, seeks mixed race, tall male for friendship and more. Box 433256 **1**

**A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER**  
Single parent of 4 kids, 35, 5'10 and long hair with blue eyes, looking for friendly guy for friendship and maybe more! Box 900447 **1**

**ROMANCE IS ALIVE**  
Divorced, lively mum, 35, GSOH, I enjoy time with my family and friends, cinema, good food, beach walks, seeks male for honesty, love and romance. Box 813930 **1 2**

**NICE SMILE???**  
Single 36yr old female, like most things in life, very loving and caring, 5'5", cuddly build, good personality, seeking a gentle, considerate man. Box 431286 **1**

**SEIZE THE DAY**  
Loving female, 36, 5'14, brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666 **1**

**COULD IT BE MAGIC?**  
Single mum of 2, 37, caring and loving, 5'14, slim, blonde hair, blue eyes, GSOH, enjoys most things in life. Box 898868 **1**

**NEW TO THE AREA**  
Happy, bubbly, positive female, 37 years old, outgoing, loving, caring, loyal, quite spiritual, into dance music, trance, cooking, the countryside, looking for soul mate Box 433539 **1**

**HOPING FOR MORE**  
36yr old single lady, long blonde hair, big blue eyes, slim, 5'17, looking for a guy who's caring, honest, for TLC and maybe more. Box 902011 **1**

**THE FULL TREATMENT**  
36yr old nurse, enjoys fun and laughter, travel, nights in/out, music, dancing, reading, theatre. Seeking man for company, maybe more. East Kent Box 912176 **1**

**YOUNG-AT-HEART**  
Attractive 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, with curves, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks exciting, fun male for friendship/relationship Box 901893 **1 2**</



# birthsdeathsmarriages



**TO PUBLISH YOUR ANNOUNCEMENT:**  **EMAIL US** @:appointments@kosmedia.co.uk

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## BIRTHS

### BASTABLE

Steve and Vicky celebrate the birth of their daughter Libby Isabelle on 25th November at home in Deal. Mummy and Daddys special little angel.

### BENNETT

Dan and Nicola of Canterbury are delighted to announce the birth of their second daughter, Phoebe Elizabeth Lucy Bennett on 2nd December 2007. A new baby sister for Millie.

### BIRTWELL

Summer Louise Birtwell was born on the 21st November 2007. Daughter to Emma Clapson and Paul Birtwell. Little sister to Jake.

### BONES

Billy born on 11th November 2007, Weighing 7lb 4oz. Son to Christopher and Lynda Bones in Broadstairs.

### COLE

Bethanie born on 20th November 2007, weighing 8lb 11oz. Daughter to Anneliese Hay and Richard Cole in Margate.

### DALE

Libby born on 22nd November 2007, weighing 7lb 9oz. Daughter to Andrew and Karen Dale of Sandwich.

### DI LERNIA

Rino and Anna of Herne Bay are very delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Giulia Di Lerna, on 1st December 2007. A new baby sister for Liam.

### DIGBY

Mark and Emma Digby of Pembury celebrate the birth of their son Daniel James Digby on 21st November 2007.

### DOBSON

To Michael and Laura of Herne Bay a beautiful daughter, Millie Summer Doreen Dobson, born on 29th November 2007.

### DRAPER

Rachel and Michelle are delighted to announce the birth of their son Charles Richard Thomas on 19th November 2007. A brother for Grace.

### EASTWOOD

Rachel and Timothy of Staple celebrate the birth of their son Samuel William on 22nd November 2007.

### FORD

To Mark and Lorayne of Herne Bay a beautiful daughter, Emily Beatrice, born on 14th November 2007. A new baby sister for Jamie.

### GIBB

Joshua born on 11th November 2007, weighing 6lbs 11oz. Son to Kevin and Rina in Gravesend.

### GRAY

Nick, Charlotte and Mia celebrate the birth of Eva Siena born on 20th November 2007 weighing 7lb 5oz.

### HADAWAY WEST

Hannah and James are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Poppy Sufia born on 7th November 2007 at Pembury Hospital weighing 6lb 15oz.

### HAYES-GOLDFINCH

Suzanna Bailey and Jamie Hayes-Goldfinch of Ramsgate celebrate the birth of their son Joseph Hayes-Goldfinch on 20th November 2007.

### HAYES-GOLDFINCH

Suzanna Bailey and Jamie Hayes-Goldfinch of Ramsgate celebrate the birth of their son Joseph Hayes-Goldfinch on 20th November 2007.

### HEARN

Lois Lee Hearn born on the 24th November 2007, weighing 6lbs 3.5oz daughter to Georgia and Lee of Ashford.

### HIBBETT

Lesley Joy born on 23rd November 2007, weighing 7lb 1oz. Daughter of Stephen and Tracey Hibbett at Pembury Hospital.

### HUMPHREY

Amy Grace born on the 12th November 2007. Daughter of John and Louise of Lenham. You are the miracle who we will love and treasure forever.

### JEFFORD-LEACH

The most precious gift of a daughter born to Tammy and Billy on 16th November 2007.

### KERRIGAN

Jimmy and Maxine of Whitstable are proud to announce the birth of their second son, Rian Thomas James, on 23rd November 2007. A new baby brother for Fionn.

### LANGMAID

Neil and Tamsin of Faversham are proud to announce the birth of their son, Finn Isaac Langmaid, on 20th November 2007. Finn weighed 6lb 7oz.

### LAW

Rod Law and Emma Dyer of Tenterden celebrate the birth of their son Harry on the 23rd November 2007, weighing 10lb 11oz.

### LEE

Caroline and Hyunho celebrate the birth of their beautiful daughter Eleanor Maria on 23rd November 2007. A baby sister to Alex.

### LUKEHURST

Ali and Nick of Dover are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Isobel Enid, on 21st November 2007. Isobel weighed 9lb 8oz.

### MOORE-VALENTINE

Crystal born on 20th November 2007, weighing 6lbs 6oz. Daughter to Stacy and Harry in Margate. Mummy and Daddys special little angel.

### MORGAN

Darren and Toni are delighted to announce the birth of their gorgeous little boy Leighton John on 21st November 2007 weighing 7lb 4oz.

### ROBERTS

Henry born on 1st December 2007, weighing 8lbs 8oz. Son to Simon and Jane Roberts of Kings Hill.

### SALTER

Paula and Justin are delighted to announce the birth of their son Harry-Jay on 4th December 2007 weighing 9lb 9oz. A brother for Chelsea and Tamzin.

### SHERRING

Owen and Maria of Edenbridge are pleased to announce the Birth of their beautiful baby

daughter Leilah-Mae Elizabeth on the 5th November 2007 weighing 7lb 4oz, sister to Annabel.

### SMITH

Jeremy and Sarah of Ash are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter, Evie Elizabeth, on 26th October 2007.

### TAYLOR

Grace and Ross celebrate the birth of Bodhi Jason Taylor on the 23rd November 2007.

### THWAITES

George born on the 22nd November 2007, weighing 6lb 12oz. Son to Shelley and George Thwaites in Ramsgate.

### VLASAK

Danny and Julia are pleased to announce the birth of their beautiful baby daughter Lydia Grace Magdalena, born on the 1st December 2007 weighing 9lb 1oz. Sister to Hannah and Sophie.

## MARRIAGES

### HALEY ALDERTON AND JAY LEADER

The marriage took place on Saturday 08 December 2007 at Shorncliffe House, Folkestone.

## DEATHS

### BANCE

Connie Bance formerly of East Malling passed away peacefully on 26th November 2007 aged 77.

### BLAIR

Andrew Hastings Blair after suffering a long illness passed away on the 23rd November 2007 aged 81. Now at Peace.

### BURR

Frank Langfield Burr of Faversham passed away peacefully on 24th November 2007. He will be sadly missed by all his friends and the staff at Kiln Court, Faversham. The funeral took place at St Peter and Paul, Boughton on December 5th 2007.

### CROSS

Elizabeth May passed away unexpectedly but peacefully on 28th November 2007. Loving wife to Sidney, loving Mumsie to Adrian and Malcolm and much missed Nanna to six grandchildren. In heaven now.

### DROWLEY

Thelma Drowley passed away peacefully on 2nd December 2007 after a long illness. She will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service will take place at Charing Crematorium on Friday 14th December at 12.40 pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Demelza House Childrens Hospice Appeal c/o High and Sons 1 Bayford Road Sittingbourne Tel 01795 472958.

### ELKINS

Peggy (Margaret Elsie) Elkins of Herne Bay passed away peacefully on 29th November 2007. A loving wife, mum, nanny and great gran who will be very sadly missed. The funeral was held at Margate Crematorium on 7th December 2007.

### HUBERT

Arthur William Hubert passed away on Monday 3rd December in Maidstone Hospital, after a short illness. All enquiries to Paul Rowland Funeral Directors.

### JOHNSON

Frank Johnson of Boughton Monchelsea passed away Friday 30th November 2007. Funeral Boughton Church Monday 10th December 2.00pm.

### JONES

Sybil Mary Jones died in Maidstone Hospital on 29th November 2007. Sadly missed by her niece Catherine, François, Don, Margaret and Debbie and friends. Funeral service to be held on Monday 10th December 2007 in Vinters Park Crematorium at 1.15pm.

### LOTT

Trevor Lott of Maidstone died suddenly on 21st November 2007. Enquiries to Ladybirds Funeral Directors, Maidstone.

### PACEY

Frank Pacey of High Halden near Ashford passed away on 24th November 2007. Enquiries to Fuggles in Tenterden 01580 763340. Beyond the gate you will find happiness and rest, and there is comfort in the thought that you remain close to us.

### REVELL

Maureen Lucy Revell of Herne Bay passed away peacefully after a long illness on 4th December 2007. From your loving husband and family, still gorgeous and will always love you. Good night and God bless. Funeral to be held at Margate Crematorium on Friday 14th December at 12.40.

### TAYLOR

Floss Taylor of Whitstable passed away peacefully on 27th November 2007 after a short illness. Loving wife of Bert, much loved mum to Derek, Anne, Carol and Mike and Nan to Claire. She will be sadly missed by everyone. Funeral to be held at Barham Crematorium on Monday 10th December 2007 at 2.40pm.

### THOMPSON

Leonard William of Littlebourne passed away 3rd December 2007 aged 75 years much loved Husband Father and Grandad who will be greatly missed. Funeral details from Lyons Canterbury.

### WHITNEY

Maureen Julia passed away at home on 1st December 2007 aged 72. Service to be held at St Peter and Paul Church Aylesford on 12th December 2007 at 1pm and there after at vinters Park Crematorium at 2pm.

### WRETHAM

Lily (Lil) of Southborough passed away suddenly on Friday 23rd November aged 89 years. Will be sadly missed by her family and friends. All enquiries to Boormans of Tunbridge Wells.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

### KENT COUNTY COUNCIL THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

#### APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: The Old Rectory, Farleigh Lane, Maidstone  
Applicant: Mrs Susan Lee

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the grant of an approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Martin Alford  
Head of Registration, Regulatory Services  
First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall,  
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX



### KENT COUNTY COUNCIL THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

#### APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

Applications have been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premise to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: The Swan, 35 Swan Street, West Malling  
Applicant: Mr Peter Cornwell

The applications and plans of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Martin Alford  
Head of Registration, Regulatory Services  
First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall,  
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX



### KENT COUNTY COUNCIL THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

#### APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

Applications have been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premise to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: The Woodstock, Broadoak Road,  
Sittingbourne  
Applicant: Mr Reg Thompson

The applications and plans of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Martin Alford  
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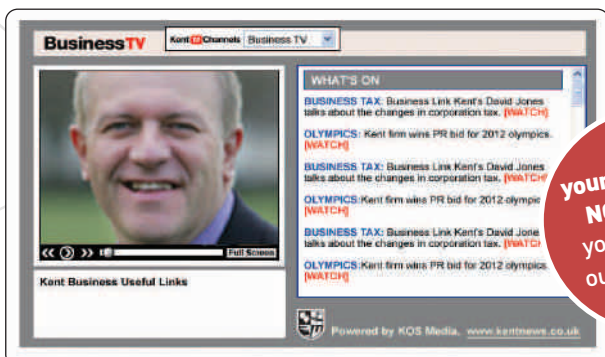


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## PROPERTY NEWS

### Agents join forces to help homeless

THE UK's estate agency industry is aiming to eradicate homelessness as it launches a new charitable organisation – the Estate Agency Foundation.

Homelessness continues to be a serious problem in the UK.

In 2006, 173,000 households were declared as homeless or living in unacceptable conditions. Meanwhile, on any one night there are about 700 rough sleepers on UK streets.

Peter Knight, chairman of Estate Agency Events, which founded the new body, said: "We desperately need to go right back to the roots of homelessness and work at eliminating the causes as well as helping those who are homeless.

This will take considerable resources, but I believe that by working as a collective we have a real opportunity to make changes."

### Couples prove to be the most desirable

COUPLES are regarded as the most desirable tenants for landlords in the property investment sector, according to recent findings by the Mortgage Trust.

The survey also noted a sharp increase in the number of landlords looking to let to corporate tenants. This group is now being targeted by 27 per cent of landlords, compared with just 14.4 per cent in January.

Both groups are regarded as least likely to default on repayments.

### Base rate reduction benefits customers

FOLLOWING last week's changes to the Bank of England base rate, the Co-operative Bank will be passing on the full benefit of the base rate reduction to its mortgage customers by cutting its standard variable rate (SVR) by 0.25 per cent to 7.49 per cent, with effect from January 1.

The Co-operative Bank also calculates interest on a daily basis and, unlike some other lenders, does not impose Higher Lending Charges (HLCs) on any products. For more details, visit [www.co-operativebank.co.uk/mortgages](http://www.co-operativebank.co.uk/mortgages).



**DON'T DO IT:** Tacky, over-the-top exterior decorations will spoil the first impression made by your house and can seriously impair the chances of a sale

# Don't hide your home behind tacky decorations

■ BY NICK AMES

HOMEOWNERS looking to sell up this festive season should turn off the Christmas lights if they want to turn on the housing market.

According to recent research by industry analysts [propertyfinder.com](http://propertyfinder.com), many would-be sellers ruin the appeal of their homes with over-the-top exterior seasonal decorations.

A massive 76 per cent of home seekers said they would be put off buying a house which was over enthusiastically decorated while 36 per cent even said they would be put off buying a home if a nearby one was treated in the same way.

Only broken down vehicles outside the property were rated as more off putting.

Warren Bright, chief executive of the influential market experts, said: "Buying a home is

an emotive process, so first impressions are everything. An unappealing exterior definitely puts off buyers.

"At this time of year overenthusiastic adornment of properties is a real problem so sellers should beware.

"Outdoor Christmas lights are perceived as tacky and can cause prospective buyers to be put off the property – or even the whole area."

The survey found eight times as many people were worried about ostentatious exterior decorations as were worried about the interior.

However with the number of sellers expected to outweigh buyers in the coming weeks, the advice is to keep your interiors in pristine condition and ensure that any decorations you

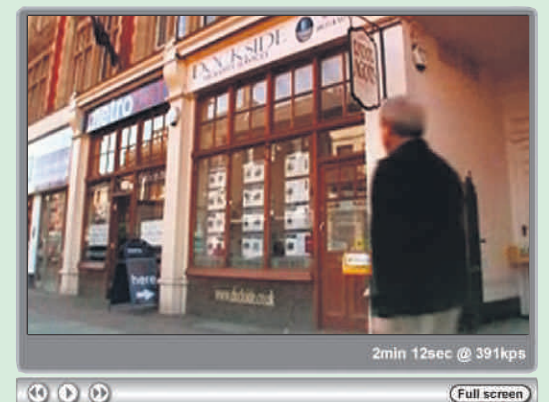
do put up are in keeping with the style of your home.

Mr Bright said: "Competition among sellers is going to be rife over the next couple of months and my top tip is to avoid bold statements. Prospective buyers like to see a neutral décor on which they could stamp their own identity. Christmas is no exception to this rule and decking your home with colourful flashing lights and tinsel is a big no.

"If you have a period property opt for traditional decorations in warm colours such as reds and golds, a modern home can accommodate sharper lines and cooler colours such as silver and blue. If you have a warehouse flat you should go for minimal decorations.

"Sellers need to know what type of buyer their property would appeal to and tailor their Christmas decorations accordingly."

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Picture labelled as Iconica



**TOWN CENTRE, £975PCM, UF**  
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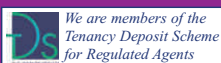
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## MOTORS NEWS



### Chrysler dealer's offer of All-Star Weekends

DUTTON Forshaw Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge at Broad Oak Road, Canterbury is running a test drive promotion that could win one lucky motorist a car worth up to £30,000.

All-Star Weekends runs until December 31 and dealer principal Lynne Kennard said it highlighted a wide range of cars sold by the dealership.

"From MPVs (pictured – Chrysler PT Cruiser), family saloons and executive estates to compact SUVs and full-size 4x4s," she said.

Lynne added that savings of up to £2,000 are available on some models, while a day's free off-roading and driver training is on offer to anyone buying a car from her dealership this weekend.



### 'New Jaguar' styling now given to X-Type

A RADICAL new mid range Jaguar, the XF model arriving in the spring, has meant some re-working for other models in the line-up.

The big XJ saloon has already had some tweaks and now it is the turn of the baby of the range, the X-Type saloon and estate.

The 2008 version has a bold single mesh grille plus new bumper and lower air intakes and an uprated interior, plus the new option to twin the acclaimed 2.2-litre diesel with a six-speed auto gearbox.



### Insignia is new face of Vauxhall's old favourite

VAUXHALL has released the above picture to build interest ahead of replacing the Vectra next summer and renaming it Insignia.

The new label will also be packaged with a move upmarket for this key model, recognising that Vauxhall must now do battle with German executive cars as well as fending off its old sparring partner, the Ford Mondeo. Ominously, Ford has already taken the same step with the all-new Mondeo launched to acclaim and booming sales earlier in 2007.



**GROWING UP FAST:** Despite being launched only three years ago the Picanto is Kia's oldest car and has been given a makeover putting it at the forefront of value and reliability

# Picanto makeover shows Kia has high ambitions

## ROAD TEST KIA PICANTO

BY STEVE LOADER

### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

This model was chosen for the new-look car's debut – the 'base' Picanto, Picanto 2 (from £6,795) and Picanto 3 flagship (£7,995) are not with us until January – and looks unbeatable at the price for driving quality and economy with five doors plus decent spec with air-conditioning.

Despite compact dimensions and, therefore, a necessarily short wheelbase, the Picanto delivers a decent ride and drive.

With just 64bhp from the mainstay 1.1-litre engine, it is never going to be a ball of fire – it takes 15 seconds to hit 60mph – but the car's average of 50-plus mpg is far more relevant in this class.

Those seeking even better economy will be interested in the January's £5,995 entry model; the Picanto pure and simple has a 61bhp 1.0-litre engine capable of averaging nearly 60mpg and runs on smaller 13-inch wheels for lower rolling resistance.

With further weight-saving measures such as having just four seats, this has brought that model's emissions down to just 117gms/km – good enough to get into the vehicle excise duty band-B and qualify for exemption under proposed London congestion charge revisions.



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THE OFFICIAL FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES IN MPG (L/100KM) AND CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS (G/KM) FOR THE 107 RANGE ARE: URBAN 51.3 (5.5), EXTRA URBAN 68.8 (4.1), COMBINED 61.4 (4.6), CO<sub>2</sub> 109 (G/KM) FOR THE 207 RANGE ARE: URBAN 27.9-48.7 (10.1-5.8), EXTRA URBAN 48.7-74.3 (5.8-3.8), COMBINED 38.6-68.8 (7.3-4.1), CO<sub>2</sub> 120-173 (G/KM) FOR THE 308 RANGE ARE: URBAN 24.8-48.7 (11.4-5.8), EXTRA URBAN 47.1-74.3 (6.0-3.8), COMBINED 35.8-62.8 (7.9-4.5), CO<sub>2</sub> 120-188 (G/KM).

†Typical 5.9% APR applies to selected 207 models. Offers subject to status. Over 18s only. A guarantee may be required. Written quotations available on request from the dealer address above and Peugeot Financial Services, Quadrant House, Princess Way, Redhill, RH1 1QA. ^This payment does not have to be made if you choose to hand your car back to Peugeot. Prices, offers and information correct at time of going to press. Offers apply to vehicles ordered and registered from 03/12/07 until such point as they may be withdrawn by the above dealer at its discretion. Offers subject to availability. \*Prices quoted are on the road and include delivery to dealership, number plates, 12 month's Government Vehicle Excise Duty, £50.00 Government First Registration Fee and apply to 107 Urban Move 1.0 Litre Hatch 3 dr and 207 mplay 1.4 8v 75 Hatch 3dr and 308 Sport 1.6 VTI 120 Hatch 5dr. Models shown are for illustrative purposes only. (PEUG13100)





## New Fabia

36 monthly payments of	<b>£149.00</b>
Retail cash price	<b>£7,990.00</b>
Deposit (min 30%)	<b>£2,626.00</b>
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Total amount payable	<b>£7,990.00</b>
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Offer available on all New Fabia registered before 31st December 2007

**Škoda. Manufacturer of happy drivers.**

Model shown is New Fabia 1 1.2 60bhp. Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the New Fabia Range: Urban 27.7 (10.2) - 49.6 (5.7), Extra-urban 47.1 (6.0) - 68.9 (4.1), Combined 37.7 (7.5) - 61.4 (4.6). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the New Fabia Range 120 - 180g/km. Retail sales only. Indemnities may be required. Subject to status. Available to over 18s for registrations before 31st December 2007 (subject to availability). Offer may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Skoda Finance is a trading name of Volkswagen Financial Services (UK) Limited, Freeport VWFS.

Typical 5.5% APR  
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= this winter's hottest offer



\* 3 years or 30,000 miles (whichever is soonest) when purchased with Solutions from Skoda Finance.

Solutions - 3 year, 10,000 miles per annum Personal Contract Plan example for:  
**Octavia Classic 1.6 FSI 115bhp** including optional metallic paint at £350 RRP (as illustrated)

35 monthly payments of	<b>£169.00</b>	Total amount payable	<b>£13,518.47</b>
Deposit	<b>£3,448.47</b>	Acceptance fee†	<b>£95.00</b>
Retail cash price	<b>£12,465.00</b>	Option to purchase fee††	<b>£60.00</b>
Amount of credit	<b>£8,999.31</b>	Excess mileage	<b>7.05p per mile</b>
Optional final payment	<b>£4,000.00</b>		

Typical 5.5% APR

**Škoda. Manufacturer of happy drivers.**

Model shown is Octavia Classic 1.6 FSI 115bhp including optional metallic paint at £350 RRP. Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Octavia Range: Urban 23.7 (11.9) - 44.8 (6.3), Extra-urban 40.9 (6.9) - 67.3 (4.2), Combined 32.5 (8.7) - 57.6 (4.9). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the Octavia Range 130 - 207g/km. Applies to all Octavia models purchased with Solutions from Skoda Finance. Retail sales only. †Payable with first payment. ††Payable with optional final payment. Further charges may be payable if vehicle is returned. Indemnities may be required. Subject to status. Available to over 18s for registrations before 31st December 2007 (subject to availability). Offer may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Skoda Finance is a trading name of Volkswagen Financial Services (UK) Limited, Freeport VWFS.

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Plate	Model	Mileage	Colour	Price	Plate	Model	Mileage	Colour	Price
<b>FABIA 5DR HATCH</b>					<b>FABIA 5DR HATCH</b>				
X'01	FABIA CLASSIC 1.4 MPI	42k	RALLY RED	£3,490.00	07 '07	FABIA 1 1.2 12v	1k	FLAMENCO RED	£8,990.00
02 '02	FABIA CLASSIC 1.4 MPI	60k	DYNAMIC BLUE	£3,990.00	07 '07	FABIA 1 1.2 12v	1k	SATIN GREY	£8,990.00
52 '02	FABIA CLASSIC 1.4 MPI	24k	DYNAMIC BLUE	£4,790.00	57 '07	FABIA 1 1.2 12v	1k	FLAMENCO RED	£8,990.00
Y'01	FABIA COMFORT 1.4 MPI	44k	DIAMOND SILVER	£4,490.00	57 '07	FABIA 1 1.2 12v	2k	TANGERINE ORANGE	£8,990.00
03 '03	FABIA COMFORT 1.4 MPI	19k	CANDY WHITE	£5,690.00	07 '07	FABIA 1 1.4 TDI	2k	BLACK MAGIC	£10,490.00
03 '03	FABIA COMFORT 1.4 MPI	48k	ADMIRAL BLUE	£4,990.00	07 '07	FABIA 1 1.2 12v	3k	TANGERINE ORANGE	£9,490.00
04 '04	FABIA COMFORT 1.4 16v	29k	GRAPHITE GREY	£6,490.00	57 '07	FABIA 2 1.2 12v	3k	HIGHLAND GREEN	£9,990.00
02 '02	FABIA COMFORT 1.9 SDI	81k	DIAMOND SILVER	£4,490.00	<b>FABIA 5DR ESTATE</b>				
54 '04	FABIA AMBIENTE 1.2 12v	17k	STONE GREY	£6,790.00	07 '07	FABIA BOHEMIA 1.2 12v		SATIN GREY	£8,990.00
55 '05	FABIA AMBIENTE 1.2 12v	30k	FLAMENCO RED	£6,990.00	<b>ROOMSTER 5DR MPV</b>				
04 '04	FABIA ELEGANCE 1.4 16v	70k	GRAPHITE GREY	£5,790.00	56 '07	ROOMSTER 1 1.4 16v	2k	CORRIDA RED	£8,990.00
55 '06	FABIA ELEGANCE 1.4 16v	29k	HIGHLAND GREEN	£8,490.00	07 '07	ROOMSTER 1 1.4 16v	2k	DIAMOND SILVER	£10,990.00
55 '05	FABIA ELEGANCE 1.9 TDI	24k	DIAMOND SILVER	£9,990.00	07 '07	ROOMSTER 2 1.4 16v	2k	DIAMOND SILVER	£10,490.00
53 '03	FABIA BLUELINE 1.2 12v	31k	ADMIRAL BLUE	£5,790.00	07 '07	ROOMSTER 2 1.6 16v	3k	ANTHRACITE GREY	£10,990.00
55 '05	FABIA VRS 1.9 TDI	27k	BLACK MAGIC	£9,990.00	07 '07	ROOMSTER 2 1.6 16v	3k	OCEAN BLUE	£11,490.00
06 '06	FABIA VRS 1.9 TDI	11k	CORRIDA RED	£10,990.00	57 '07	ROOMSTER 2 1.6 16v	3k	ANTHRACITE GREY	£12,290.00
56 '07	FABIA VRS 1.9 TDI	5k	CORRIDA RED	£11,490.00	57 '07	ROOMSTER 3 1.4 16v	3k	FLAMENCO RED	£12,290.00
<b>FABIA 5DR ESTATE</b>					07 '07	ROOMSTER 3 1.4 16v	3k	OCEAN BLUE	£11,490.00
53 '03	FABIA CLASSIC 1.4 MPI	57k	LEMON YELLOW	£4,790.00	<b>OCTAVIA 5DR HATCH</b>				
05 '05	FABIA AMBIENTE 1.9 SDI	33k	FLAMENCO RED	£7,990.00	57 '07	OCTAVIA CLASSIC 1.4 16v	1k	DYNAMIC BLUE	£10,990.00
04 '04	FABIA ELEGANCE 1.4 16v	12k	DARK BLUE	£7,490.00	07 '07	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 1.9 TDI	3k	CANDY WHITE	£11,990.00
06 '06	FABIA ELEGANCE 1.4 16v	21k	GRAPHITE GREY	£9,490.00	56 '06	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 1.9 TDI	8k	BLACK MAGIC	£12,490.00
52 '02	FABIA ELEGANCE 1.9 TDI	47k	NATURE GREEN	£6,790.00	07 '07	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 1.9 TDI	5k	STORM BLUE	£12,490.00
<b>OCTAVIA 5DR HATCH</b>					07 '07	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 2.0 TDI	3k	STORM BLUE	£14,490.00
54 '05	OCTAVIA CLASSIC 1.9 TDI	16k	GRAPHITE GREY	£7,990.00	57 '07	OCTAVIA ELEGANCE 1.9 TDI	3k	STORM BLUE	£16,290.00
56 '06	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 1.6 FSI	10k	DIAMOND SILVER	£11,490.00	07 '07	OCTAVIA VRS 2.0 FSI	4k	CORRIDA RED	£15,490.00
54 '04	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 1.9 TDI	31k	STONE GREY	£9,490.00	07 '07	OCTAVIA VRS 2.0 TDI		RACE BLUE	£17,490.00
54 '04	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 1.9 TDI	27k	GRAPHITE GREY	£9,990.00	57 '07	OCTAVIA VRS 2.0 TDI		CORRIDA RED	£18,790.00
54 '04	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 1.9 TDI	29k	SAHARA BEIGE	£9,690.00	<b>OCTAVIA 5DR ESTATE</b>				
52 '02	OCTAVIA ELEGANCE 1.8T	22k	EUCALYPTUS GREEN	£5,990.00	07 '07	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 1.6 FSI		CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£13,990.00
52 '02	OCTAVIA VRS 1.8 20V	69k	RALLY RED	£6,490.00	57 '07	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 2.0 TDI		SATIN GREY	£17,490.00
06 '06	OCTAVIA VRS 2.0 FSI	11k	DIAMOND SILVER	£13,990.00	07 '07	OCTAVIA SCOUT 4x4 2.0 TDI	4k	SATIN GREY	£18,990.00
07 '07	OCTAVIA VRS 2.0 FSI	1k	RACE BLUE	£16,490.00	<b>SUPERB 4DR SALOON</b>				
					06 '06	SUPERB COMFORT 2.0 TDI	5k	MYSTERY BLUE	£14,490.00



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2000/W, 80000 Miles Silver Met (Black Leather), 2 dr Convertible Auto, Climate Control, Leather Upholstery, Power Hood, PAS, ABS, Alloys, Remote Central Locking, Cruise Control, E Windows/Mirrors/Seats, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliser, CD, Stereo, hard top, parking sensors

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BMW 325ci coupe manual



2002/02, 49000 Miles Topaz Blue Met (Anthracite Cloth and Leather), 2 door Coupe, Climate Control, PAS, ABS, Alloys, RCL, Cruise Control, Electric Windows, E/m, E/s, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliser, CD Stereo superb throughout

**£9,950**

BMW 320ci convertible auto 2.2



2000/X, 62000 Miles Orient Blue Met (Anthracite Cloth and Leather), 2 door Convertible Automatic, Climate Control, Power Hood, PAS, ABS, Alloys, Cruise Control, E/w, E/m, E/s, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliser, CD Stereo superb throughout fbmw s/history

**£9,950**

BMW 330ci coupe manual



2001/51, 97000 Miles Green Metallic (Green Leather), 2 door Coupe, Climate Control, Leather Upholstery, PAS, ABS, Alloys, RCL, Cruise Control, E/w, E/m, Es, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliser, CD Stereo superb throughout fsh tv sat/nav superb throughout

**£8,950**

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2000/W, 95000 Miles Orient Blue Met (Silver Leather Sports Seats), 2 door Coupe Automatic, Climate Control, Leather Upholstery, PAS, ABS, Alloys, RCL, Cruise Control, E/w, E/m, Es, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliser, CD Stereo 2 owners from new fs/history

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1999/V, 69000 Miles Blue Met (Black Leather), 2 door Convertible Auto, Climate Control, Leather Upholstery, Power Hood, PAS, ABS, Alloy Wheels, Remote Central Locking, Cruise Control, E/w, E/m, E/s, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliser, CD Stereo very good condition throughout

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BMW 530dse auto



2004/54, 73200 Miles Grey Metallic (Black Dakota Leather), 4 door Saloon Diesel Automatic, Climate Control, PAS, ABS, Alloys, RCL, Cruise Control, E/w, E/m, One Owner, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliser, CD Stereo superb throughout f bmw s/history

**£13,950**

BMW 530 d se automatic



2003/53, 41000 Miles Green Met (Black Cloth), 4 door Saloon Automatic, Climate Control, PAS, ABS, Alloys, RCL, Cruise Control, E/w, E/m, One Owner, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliser, CD Stereo one owner from new superb throughout fbmw s/history

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Ford Maverick 2.7td manual



1998/S, 73000 Miles Bronze Met (Grey Cloth), 5 door 4x4 Diesel, PAS, ABS, Alloys, RCL, Electric Windows, Service History, Alarm, Immobiliser, Stereo very good condition throughout

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2004/04, 66000 Miles, Auto, Blue (Beige Leather), 2 door Coupe Automatic, Climate Control, PAS, ABS, Electric Sunroof, Alloys, RCL, Cruise Control, E/w, E/m, Es, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliser, Multi-CD Stereo sat/nav dvd, facelift model 5 main dealer services superb at

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## PEOPLE CARRIERS

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### FORD GALAXY



IF Renault's Espace distilled the essence of the people carrier, Ford mass-produced it. The 1995 vintage Galaxy and its cloned sisters, the VW Sharan and Seat Alhambra, sold in big numbers helped by a combination of style, space and car-like handling. The fact that the Ford soldiered on for 11 years, helped by a superb makeover in 2000, is a tribute to the design. Reliability on early examples is increasingly flaky so post-2000 diesels are the pick of the used crop.

#### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

### CHRYSLER VOYAGER



COMMERCIAL and private buyers have made the Voyager a big hit for Chrysler in the UK. All versions seat seven, but there is more demand for the extra luggage space of 13-inch longer 'Grand' models and those featuring Stow 'n' Go: underfloor stowage that also takes the folded seats. The smooth and powerful post-2004 diesel auto is the powertrain to go for. The Voyager rides comfortably, but bulk, small wheels and vague steering make for a dull drive.

#### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

### KIA SEDONA



NEVER mind the quality, feel the width describes the Kia Sedona (1999-2006). Replaced by a more sophisticated model, the original is a cheap, reliable and capacious used buy though the interior is tacky, safety features were not up with rivals and it feels lumpy on rural roads while excelling as a comfy motorway muncher. The post-2002 125bhp diesel is the engine to go for if the budget will stretch. Sliding rear doors and a big tailgate make access easy.

#### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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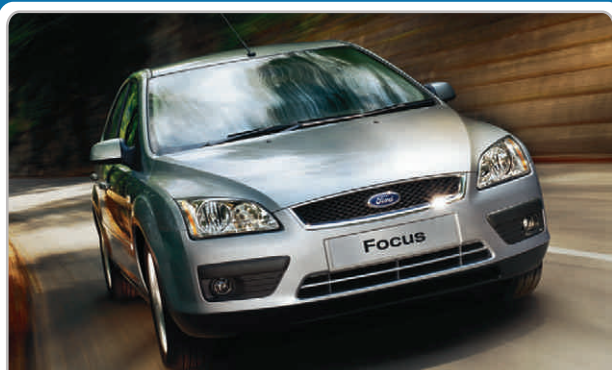
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**LAND ROVER FREELANDER GS 2.5i V6** £4495.00  
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**MAZDA 6 TS** £9995.00  
05/55, 25000 Miles Grey Metallic, 5 door Hatchback Diesel, Climate Control, PAS, ABS, Alloy Wheels, Air Conditioning, Remote Central Locking, Cruise Control, Electric Windows, Electric Mirrors, One Owner, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliser, Multiple Air-bags, 6 speed gear box.

**MERCEDES BENZ SLK 230 KOMPRESSOR AUTO-TIPTRONIC ROADSTER** £9995.00  
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**MERCEDES BENZ CLK 230 ELEGANCE SE KOMP** £9995.00  
2001/51, 65000 Miles Silver, 2 door Coupe Automatic, Climate Control, Leather Upholstery, PAS, ABS, Air Bag, Passenger Air Bag, Alloy Wheels, Remote Central Locking, Cruise Control, Electric Windows, Electric Mirrors, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliser, CD Player, Stereo, 12 Months New Mot, Heated front seats, Multiple Air-bags, Electric folding mirrors.

**ISSAN MICRA S 1.2** £4995.00  
05/05, 20000 Miles Aruba Blue Metallic, 5 door Hatchback, PAS, ABS, Air Bag, Passenger Air Bag, Remote Central Locking, Cruise Control, Electric Windows, One Owner, Alarm, Immobiliser, CD Player, Stereo.

**NISSAN MICRA S 1.2** £4995.00  
05/05, 24000 Miles Blade Silver, 5 door Hatchback, PAS, ABS, Air Bag, Passenger Air Bag, Remote Central Locking, Cruise Control, Electric Windows, One Owner, Service History, Immobiliser, CD Player, Stereo.

**PEUGEOT 307 2.0 CC S** £11695.00  
05/55, 26000 Miles Grey Metallic, 3 door Convertible, Climate Control, Leather Upholstery, Power Hood, PAS, ABS, Alloy Wheels, Air Con, Remote Central Locking, Cruise Control, Electric Windows, Electric Mirrors, One Owner, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliser, CD Player, Stereo, Multiple Air-bags, Electric folding mirrors, parking sensors 140psi.

**PEUGEOT 206 VERVE 1.4HDI SPECIAL EDITION** £6995.00  
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**VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT SE 2.0 TDI ESTATE 140PS** £12995.00  
06/06, 49000 Miles Graphite Grey Metallic, 5 door Estate Diesel, Climate Control, PAS, ABS, Alloy Wheels, Remote Central Locking, Cruise Control, Electric Windows, Electric Mirrors, Electric Seats, One Owner, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliser, CD Player, Stereo, Multiple Air-bags, Electric folding mirrors, Roof rails.

**VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT SE 2.0 TDI ESTATE 140PS** £12995.00  
06/06, 50000 Miles Black, 5 door Estate Diesel, Climate Control, PAS, ABS, Alloy Wheels, Remote Central Locking, Cruise Control, Electric Windows, Electric Mirrors, Electric Seats, One Owner, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliser, CD Player, Stereo, Multiple Air-bags, Electric folding mirrors, Roof rails.

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**A4**, 2.0 TDi TDV S Line 5dr, abs, alarm, traction control, e/w, black, 15900 miles, £22299, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

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**CONTINENTAL GT**, 2005, arena red metallic with saddle leather interior, 28000 miles, £69950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

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**3 SERIES**, 325ci coupe manual, 2002, topaz blue met with anthracite cloth and leather, 49000 miles, £10950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

**3 SERIES**, 335i coupe automatic, 2006, silver met with black leather, 8000 miles, £31950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

#### CHEVROLET

**KALOS**, 1.4 SX, 24637, finished in poly silver with grey interior manual, grey, 0 miles, £5995, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

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**GRAND MOVE**, v328ohj, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, red, 45000 miles, £2699, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

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**FORD CONNECT T200**, 05 2004, 1.8 tdc 90 ps swb white 81.000 miles, £3995, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

**FORD TRANSIT 350 LWB**, 01 2005, 2.4 td 90 ps crew cab tipper 62.000 miles fsh, £10495, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

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**CIVIC**, 2002, a/con alloys e/wind c/lock cd, ultra blue, 28275 miles, £5195, WJ King Vauxhall, Farningham, 01322 862366 (TRADE)

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**COOPER**, 1.6 3DR, 2003, trim: part leather engine size: 1600 manual, monaco blue, 14000 miles, £9995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

**COOPER**, 1.6, 170649, mini cooper 1.6 3dr mazda mazda Tunbridge Wells drake & fletcher yellow, 2001, 26500 miles, manual, petrol, 3 doors, 1 previous owners, yellow, £8395, Drake and Fletcher Mazda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

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**IBIZA CHILL**, 51, seat ibiza 1.4 51 petrol chill model. climate control air con, power steering, alloy wheels, driver airbag, cassette/radio, electric windows, good condition in, postbox red, 67500 miles, £3000, Kent, 07843588989 (PRIVATE)

**IBIZA**, 1.9TDi FR 3dr, 01/09/2004, cd player abs black, 38657 miles, £7999, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 992321 (TRADE)

#### SUBARU

**FORESTER**, 2.0 XT Turbo, 2003, blue over silver, 64000 miles, £7995, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

#### SUZUKI

**SUZUKI jimny jlx**, 09 2000, 1.2 p auto 4x4 estate red 45.000 miles, £2995, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

**ALTO**, 1.1 GL Hatchback 5dr, 04/2004, pas alloys fog lights cd player fhs 1061cc 16v, met black, 18000 miles, £3, 995, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

#### TOYOTA

**TOYOTA HI ACE 280 GS D4D**, 09 2006, 2.5 td 88 swb white 21.000 miles fsh rear tailgate, £8995, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

**TOYOTA HI ACE LWB D4D**, 01 2006, 2.5 td met silver 20.000 miles fsh, £8995, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

**TOYOTA HI ACE POWERVAN**, 03 2000, 2.4d swb gs 3 seats white, 0 miles, £2995, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

**COROLLA**, 1.6 Vvt i T3, 149649, 5dr 2004, 19000 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, silver, £7995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

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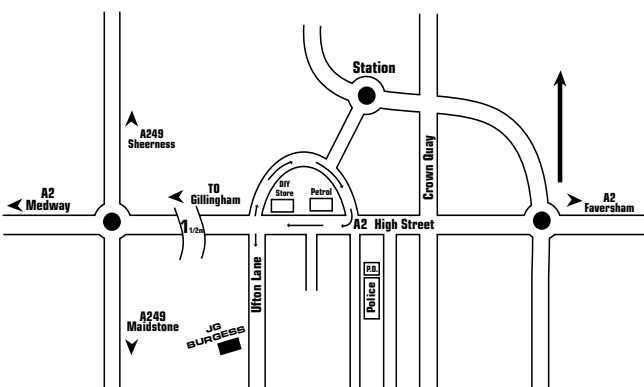
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## MEDWAY TEACHING OPPORTUNITIES



### PRIMARY SCHOOLS

**Teacher**  
**Napier Community Primary and Nursery School**  
Upper Key Stage 2 teacher  
Salary: MPS/UPS  
Full Time and Permanent  
Required From: 1 January 2008  
Closing date: 14 December 2007  
**To apply/more information**  
Mrs Zerina Slade, Headteacher  
Napier Community Primary and Nursery School, Napier Road  
Gillingham  
Kent ME7 4HG  
Telephone - (01634) 574920  
Fax - 01634 574920  
Email: sladz001@medway.org.uk

### Warren Wood Community Primary School and Language Unit

Specialist teacher (mixed year 3/4/5 class)  
Salary: MPS/UPS  
Full Time and fixed term contract  
Required From: 21 April 2008  
Closing date: 7 January 2008  
**To apply/more information**  
Kerry Trim, Assistant Headteacher  
Warren Wood community Primary School and language unit  
Arethusa Road  
Rochester  
Kent ME1 2UR  
Telephone - (01634) 337227  
Email: trimk001@medway.org.uk

### SPECIAL EDUCATION

**Rivermead**  
Teacher of general subjects  
Salary: MPS + SEN allowance (£1818)  
Full Time and permanent  
Required From: to be confirmed  
Closing date: 15 January 2008  
**To apply/more information**  
Mrs Karen Watkin,  
Office manager  
Rivermead School,  
Forge Lane  
Gillingham  
Kent ME7 1UG  
Telephone - (01634) 338348  
Email:  
office@rivermead.medway.sch.uk

**www.medway.gov.uk/teachingcareers**

Any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check

## MOTORSPORT



**Brands Hatch**

### Gearing up for the new season

A great opportunity has arisen for bright, hard working individuals to join the Hospitality and Events team at Brands Hatch being part of the team responsible for organising and coordinating all corporate and race day hospitality at the Brands Hatch circuit.

#### Hospitality and Events Coordinator

This hands on role would suit a candidate with previous experience working within a fast paced department which deals with a large volume of admin work, requiring accuracy and good presentation at all times. They will be highly organised, demonstrate strong Outlook, Word and Excel skills, and be comfortable communicating with customers both face to face and over the telephone.

Educated to A-level standard or equivalent, they will possess excellent written and spoken English skills, be a good communicator and ideally have previous front of house experience in the hotel, conferencing or events industry. The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate that they can work under their own initiative and have an eye for detail.

#### Hospitality and Events Administrator

The Hospitality and Events Administrator will provide administrative support and assist with the co-ordination of forthcoming corporate driving events, conferences, banquets and race day hospitality for Brands Hatch.

The successful candidate will ideally be educated to A-level standard or equivalent and possess excellent written and spoken English skills, as well as being experienced within a fast paced department which deals with a large volume of admin work, requiring accuracy and good presentation at all times. They will be highly organised, demonstrate strong Outlook, Word and Excel skills, and be comfortable communicating with customers handling customer queries and requests both face to face and over the telephone.

Interested?

Please apply in writing, including salary expectations and current CV, to:

Jo Brown  
Brands Hatch  
Fawkham  
Longfield  
Kent  
DA3 8NG

email: joanne.brown@motorsportvision.co.uk



### Leadership Opportunities

Copart UK are one of the country's leading salvage specialists. From auctions to engineering services, specialist vehicles to prestige motors, Copart is 'a bid above the rest'.

Are you a self-motivated, intelligent, capable, hard working and flexible individual with excellent communication skills? If so, we are currently recruiting the following new vacancies at our branches in Chester, Westbury in Wiltshire, Sandwich in Kent, Sandy in Bedfordshire, Sandtoft in North Lincolnshire and Wootton in Bedfordshire.

### Assistant General Manager

You will work closely with the General Manager to ensure the efficient operation of yard facilities, equipment and personnel. You will be involved in all areas of management including, recruitment, staff motivation, productivity, training, auditing, logistics, health & safety, inventory management, etc.

The successful candidates will have existing leadership skills and experience. They will be excellent time managers who understand the need to exceed customer expectations. With a hands on, 'get stuck in' approach, they will be committed to taking a leading role in Copart's future.

### Management Trainees

You will be expected to learn about every area of the branch, including: customer calls, office processes, customer vehicle pick-up, storage, sale and delivery processes, yard operations, record keeping, etc.

This position would suit a positive, proactive, and capable individual who's not afraid to get their hands dirty whilst they train to be a leader of the future.

Both positions involve UK travel, and are rewarded with competitive salary and benefits packages.

Applications are invited from all sectors as full training will be provided.

**Interested? Please send your CV and covering letter, including salary expectations and preferred location, to Lydia Edwards, Copart UK, Acrey Fields, Woburn Road, Wootton, Bedfordshire, MK43 9EJ or email [lydia.edwards@copart.co.uk](mailto:lydia.edwards@copart.co.uk)**

**Closing date: Friday, 28 December 2007**

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KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services. Founded in 1975 and currently employing over 300 paid and unpaid staff, it has an annual budget of £11 million and is becoming established as one of the leading service providers in the South East Region.

**REF: 457 - TRAINER - FAVERSHAM**  
**Salary: £22,122 - £28,172 (SCP 27-35) pro rata**  
**15 hours per week**  
**Essential Car User Allowance**

The focus of this role will be to facilitate/deliver a range of training courses/modules to staff, volunteers (and potentially external organisations). This will primarily be related to drugs and alcohol, but will include a range of associated issues. You will have specific responsibility for delivering CBT, Motivational Interviewing & Brief Solution Focused Therapy. Therefore a counselling/clinical psychology qualification would be desirable. This is an exciting time for KCA (UK) as we strive to meet the challenges of continued expansion/diversification and the implementation of DANOS and National Open College Network Accredited Training.

You should be an experienced drug and alcohol practitioner and preferably have experience of providing training in the field.

**For application forms and further information, contact: KCA (UK),  
Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT.  
Telephone 01795 590635, Fax 01795 539351  
Email [marina@kca.org.uk](mailto:marina@kca.org.uk), website [www.kca.org.uk](http://www.kca.org.uk).**

**Closing date: Friday 14th December 2007 at 12.00 noon**  
**Interview date: Tuesday 8th January 2008**

KCA(UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.  
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**Abbey Court School**  
**"WE GROW PEOPLE"**

Abbey Court School, a 'special' school and a 'special' place to work.  
**We are currently looking for a...**  
**FINANCE ASSISTANT**  
**Medway Scale, Grade D2**  
**£14,492 - £18,430 (PRO RATA)**

Abbey Court is located on 2 sites; Rainham (Primary) and Strood (Secondary and Further Education), and caters for pupils aged 4-19 with severe learning difficulties.

The successful applicant, under the direction of a Business Manager, will undertake a range of finance duties, including...

- management of school voluntary fund
- organisation of school uniform
- ordering of resources (raising purchase orders, settling invoices)
- monthly bank account reconciliation
- booking of staff training courses

In addition, the appointed person will

- have a good general standard of education (GCSE English & Maths)
- be computer literate (intermediate Microsoft Excel)
- have a working knowledge of SIMS FMS6 (desirable)
- have previous experience of managing accounts
- be able to work under pressure and to set deadlines

This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure.

**For an application pack, please write to/telephone  
(stating the role for which you are applying):  
Mrs Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent. ME2 3SP  
(01634 338224)**

**Please note CV's will not be accepted.**  
**Closing date: 18.12.07**

HMYOI COOKHAM WOOD>

**EXTRAORDINARY JOBS.  
EXTRAORDINARY WORKPLACE.**

HMYOI Cookham Wood near Rochester is to become an establishment accommodating 15-17 year old young men, commissioned by the Youth Justice Board. It is anticipated that the change of role will take place in January 2008.

**HEAD OF CARE AND REDUCING RE-OFFENDING**  
**£29,184 - £43,927**

As a key member of the Senior Management Team, you will be tasked with developing, implementing and managing the arrangements for the reduction of re-offending. This is an exciting opportunity to work with a new team providing innovative solutions for young people in custody to provide a safe environment for them and to help them break the cycle of re-offending. It is essential that you have a sound knowledge of the resettlement needs of young people being released from custody and a good working knowledge of safeguarding processes. Extensive experience of working with young people is essential and also of managing a multi-disciplinary team. Social work qualifications are desirable.

**CHILD PROTECTION – CO-ORDINATOR**  
**£23,434 - £30,676**

By providing Child Protection advice, guidance and practical support, you will ensure the prison is a safe and child focused environment for the young people. As the main point of contact within the establishment for Child Protection matters, you will advise the Governor, Senior Management Team and other staff on Child Protection policy and practice. It is essential that you hold or be working towards a Social Work qualification and have knowledge of Child Protection legislation and operation in a multi-agency arena. You should also possess an understanding of the complex issues faced by young people in custody. Experience of working with or in a child protection team is desirable, as is experience of policy and procedure writing.

**CASEWORK TEAM LEADER**  
**£23,434 - £30,676**

We require a Team Leader, preferably with casework management experience, to manage the Casework Team who are responsible for the provision of a co-ordinated range of resettlement services for both remand and convicted young people at Cookham Wood and effective resettlement outcomes. You must be able to work in a logical, methodical and organised manner. An understanding of risk-led sentence management and the Youth Justice System, both in the community and in custody is desirable together with knowledge of e-ASSET and the Wiring up Youth Justice Programme.

**NURSE**  
**£19,288 - £23,293**

A nurse with post-registration experience is needed to provide offenders with nursing and healthcare services that promote self care, personal well being and that will enable them to take responsibility for their own health. You must be able to work autonomously within a prison setting and supervise junior members of the team. With evidence of continuing professional development, it is desirable that you have skills in phlebotomy, suturing, triage and minor injuries/illnesses, chronic disease management and experience of working with those that self-harm and crisis intervention for primary care mental health.

**CLEANER**  
**£11,371 - £11,716**

To carry out cleaning services around the prison including carpeted areas, desks, bins and toilets, maintaining a high standard and taking into account Health and Safety issues. Experience is preferable but not essential.

**Completed applications should be returned to James Restall, Kent & Sussex Areas Recruitment & Conference Centre, Sir Evelyn Road, Rochester, Kent, ME1 3PZ Tel: 01634 673036 Fax: 01634 673050. Closing date for the return of completed applications is 2nd January 2008.**

This post is open to part-time and job share applicants. You will be required to declare whether you are a member of a group or organisation, which the Prison Service considers to be racist. The Prison Service is an equal opportunities employer. We welcome applications from candidates regardless of ethnic origin, religious belief, gender, age (subject to being within the normal retirement age for the grade), sexual orientation, disability or any other irrelevant factor.

Working together to reduce re-offending

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**THE UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH AT MEDWAY  
SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR**

**Ref: 00873/K3**

A keen individual is required to provide secretarial and administrative support for the University's School of Engineering. Duties include assisting senior staff, including maintenance of diaries, preparation of meetings, responding to routine communications, maintenance of filing systems, travel arrangements etc. In addition the post holder will provide administrative and secretarial support for one of the School's departments or key functions involving the production of letters and other School documents, assisting with the organisation of meetings and events, general office duties. The post holder will also, on occasion, provide relief cover for the School's reception.

You must have excellent communication skills, a flexible attitude to work, the ability to work accurately under pressure and to work as a member of a team. Experience of working in the academic environment is desirable, as is the willingness to work outside normal hours on occasions.

**Salary scale: £18,702 - £21,682 per annum**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

**Ref: 00869/K3**

This post in the Division of Learning Enhancement, Access and Partnership (LEAP) is to undertake a range of secretarial and administrative duties in support of the Head of the Educational Partnerships Unit.

The post will have a primary focus on supporting the administration and development of the Summer University and Study Skills programmes within the University.

You will have a good level of secondary education, extremely strong IT skills with a sound knowledge of Microsoft Access, ability to work with a wide range of client groups, staff and students, experience of working to tight deadlines, be prepared to travel to other University campuses, work flexible hours at peak times and be able to work on your own initiative with a minimum of supervision.

**Salariescale: £18,702 - £21,682 per annum**

**KINGS HILL CONFERENCE AND TRAINING CENTRE  
RECEPTIONIST/ADMINISTRATIVE  
ASSISTANT**

**Ref: 00885/K3**

Located within the Kings Hill Business Park, the Kings Hill Conference and Training Centre at West Malling, Kent is ideally situated midway between London and the Channel Tunnel and is easily accessible from the Kent motorway network. The purpose built premises offer superb facilities for conferences, training and all other business events in 14 rooms with capacities varying from a 10 seat boardroom to a conference room for 140 people as well as a computer training suite. The rooms are equipped to a high technical standard and staff provide the level of service expected from a premier Conference & Training Centre.

To provide the first point of contact for delegates and visitors entering the building, liaise between departments to deal with customer's requests, operate switchboard, and provide administrative support to the conference team.

You should be able to deal professionally with people, have a good telephone manner, and be competent with Microsoft Office.

This post is a job share appointment to cover 18-25 hours per week. Normal working week of 2 days, 8 am-6 pm, plus one half day although some flexibility is possible

**Salary scale: pro rata to £16,199 - £18,702 per annum.**

We aim to be an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from all sections of the community.

To obtain further particulars and an application form visit our website [www.gre.ac.uk](http://www.gre.ac.uk), email: [jobs@gre.ac.uk](mailto:jobs@gre.ac.uk) or write to the Personnel Office, University of Greenwich, Avery Hill Road, London, SE9 2UG quoting the job reference. Applications should be returned by 5:00 pm on 19 December 2007.

the  
UNIVERSITY  
of  
GREENWICH



## the University of Greenwich at Medway CONTRACTS MANAGER (FIXED TERM)

Ref: 00870/K3

A dynamic, self motivated individual is required to contract manage all LLN (Lifelong Learning Network) funded activities being delivered through partner institutions and other organisations. This new post will be based in the small LLN management team.

If you are a good negotiator with experience of managing and administering complex projects as well as experience of managing contracted-out work, then this might be your opportunity to put your skills to work on a project with five higher education institutions, seven further education colleges and a range of other organisations. You will have good report writing skills, an understanding of complex budgets, be able to analyse and manipulate data using Excel and will have experience of managing or maintaining web-based information. You will also need to have a flexible attitude to work, the ability to work accurately under pressure and as a positive and productive team member.

This post is fixed term to 31 August 2009.

Salary £26,666 - £30,012 per annum

We aim to be an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from all sections of the community.

To obtain further particulars and an application form visit our website [www.gre.ac.uk](http://www.gre.ac.uk), email: [jobs@gre.ac.uk](mailto:jobs@gre.ac.uk) or write to the Personnel Office, University of Greenwich, Avery Hill Road, London, SE9 2UG quoting the job reference. Applications should be returned by 5:00 pm on 14 December 2007.



### Qualified Teachers - Kent Children's Centres'

Main Professional Grade or Upper Pay Scale:

£20,133 - £29,427 or £31,878 - £34,281 pa

Fringe Scale:

£21,102 - £30,393 or £32,847 - £35,250

plus TLR 2(2) of £3,940 pa

Part or full-time opportunities

In the context of the Government's agenda of rolling out children's centres to cover the country, Kent County Council is seeking to appoint up to 15 full time equivalent qualified early years teachers to work in support of children's centres across Kent. These exciting opportunities will involve working alongside early education and childcare providers in all sectors to promote and support the highest quality care and learning opportunities for children from birth to five.

Kent currently has 20 Children's Centres throughout the county - with plans to increase this to 72 by 2008. Each centre serves approximately 800 children, offering a range of multi-agency services, with a qualified teacher contributing to the strategic development and direction.

You will be outstanding and experienced practitioners, possessing excellent interpersonal and communication skills as these will be crucial to achievement in this significantly multi-agency, cross sector environment.

Kent is seeking to appoint candidates on a part time basis to work in one centre, or alternatively on a full time basis to work across two centres.

These posts are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

If you would like further information about these posts, please contact in the first instance Stacey Joyce on 01622 626685 or email [stacey.joyce@kent.gov.uk](mailto:stacey.joyce@kent.gov.uk)

For an application pack, please contact Kym Hobson on 01622 605788 or email: [kym.hobson@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kym.hobson@kent.gov.uk)

Please quote the relevant reference for the location(s) you wish to apply for:

Ashford (ref: CFE/07/0454) Canterbury (ref: CFE/07/0455),

Dartford (ref: CFE/07/0456) Gravesham (ref: CFE/07/0457),

Maidstone (ref: CFE/07/0458) Sevenoaks (ref: CFE/07/0459),

Shepway (ref: CFE/07/0460) Swale (ref: CFE/07/0461),

Thanet (ref: CFE/07/0462)

Tonbridge and Malling (ref: CFE/07/0463),

Tunbridge Wells (ref: CFE/07/0464)

Closing date: 3 January 2008

Interviews: w/c 28 January  
& 4 February 2008



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With the Port of Dover at the East of the county, Kent has a significant number of children and young people arriving in the country and claiming asylum as separated children. These are Looked After Children and therefore supported into independence as Care Leavers.

The Service for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (SUASC) is responsible for assessing their needs and providing services, as a specialist countywide provision within the Children, Families and Education Directorate.

### Team Leader

West Kent

Ref: CFE/07/0443

Starting salary £36,245 per annum, with progression through contribution related pay to £41,881 per annum

### Practice Supervisor

East Kent

Ref: CFE/07/0444

Starting salary £32,779 per annum, with progression through contribution related pay to £39,712 per annum

### Senior Practitioner

East Kent

Ref: CFE/07/0445

Starting salary £32,779 per annum, with progression through contribution related pay to £39,712 per annum

### Social Worker

East Kent

Ref: CFE/07/446

£22,268 - £39,712 per annum (salary dependent on experience and progression through the Career Grade is based on the fulfillment of required competencies)

### Young Persons Community Support Worker

East Kent

Ref: CFE/07/447

Starting salary £22,268 per annum, with progression through contribution related pay to £25,521 per annum

You will have a variety of skill mix and abilities, commitment and drive, a positive attitude to multi-agency assessment, best practice principles and an ability to enable young people who come from many parts of the world, to achieve their potential.

As part of our Staff Care Package we offer a comprehensive induction programme, significant investment in training and career development, health checks, an international exchange programme and flexible working. We've earned our 3 star rating by retaining excellent staff who provide an excellent service.

These posts are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure application to the Criminal Records Bureau and (with the exception of the Young Persons Community Support Worker) to registration as a qualified social worker with the General Social Care Council.

Closing date: midday, 19 December 2007.

### Staff Officer to Managing Director

Starting salary £34,507, with progression through contribution related pay to £39,712 per annum

Sessions House, Maidstone

Ref: CFE/07/448

Following promotion of the previous post holder, an excellent career opportunity has arisen for an organised individual to provide high level support to CFE's Managing Director.

Providing comprehensive, co-ordinated and effective support, you will arrange and support senior meetings of CFE's SMT, EMT and Cabinet Members as well as organising events and meetings with external partners. To support these actions, you will have direct line management for the MD's Office team.

With experience of operating in a demanding, politically sensitive environment, you will have an awareness of the mechanics of the operation of local government, experience of managing people and preferably have an understanding of the role of Children's Services.

This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

Closing date: midday, 17 December 2007.

To apply, visit [www.kent.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.kent.gov.uk/jobs) Alternatively, please email [recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk](mailto:recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk)

or call 0845 8247 904.

Please quote the appropriate reference number.



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Kings Farm Primary School  
Cedar Avenue, Gravesend,  
Kent DA12 5JT

## TEACHING ASSISTANT

required to start January 2008 or sooner

We are seeking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed individual to join the friendly team at our School.

Closing Date: 11th December 2007

To apply please send a CV with a covering letter to Mrs Stella Garner - Headteacher, or email [office@kings-farm.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@kings-farm.kent.sch.uk)

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Kingsfords LLP - Solicitors

Kingsfords are recruiting for full time and part time solicitors and/or clerks in their probate department. The positions are very flexible and arrangements could be made for home working, where appropriate. There are good prospects and an excellent package for the successful candidate.

Please apply in writing with full C.V. to:

Mrs C R Pleasance  
Kingsfords LLP  
2 Elwick Road  
Ashford, Kent TN23 1PD

Kingsfords are an equal opportunity employer.



### EXCITING SALES OPPORTUNITIES

PageSuite Ltd is a rapidly expanding software company based in Aldington close to Ashford, Kent, set in rural surroundings and specialising in producing digital editions of newspapers and magazines for media companies and businesses throughout the UK and the rest of the World.

As a result of this rapid expansion exciting sales opportunities have occurred for sales people with experience working in either a media company or as part of an office based sales team.

The work will involve providing support for a small field sales team and liaising and supplying clients with reports and ensuring internal deadlines are met on time.

Your job will also include responding to enquiries generated from our web site. It's therefore important that candidates have an excellent telephone manner and be used to dealing efficiently and professionally with key clients.

Basic salary plus commission will be in the region of £18k per annum. The job will appeal to people fed up with the daily commute to London or looking for a new challenge in 2008.

Please apply to [Lawrie@pagesuite.co.uk](mailto:Lawrie@pagesuite.co.uk) with details of your career to date. For more information about our company please log on to [www.pagesuite.co.uk](http://www.pagesuite.co.uk)

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**FULL/PART TIME SUPPORT WORKERS**

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**Please contact Kent Care At Home Service 01622 670065 for an application form.**

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required by NELSON POLICIES a busy Underwriting Office based in Sittingbourne You will be experienced in LIABILITY and COMMERCIAL Underwriting.  
You will be a Dip CII or preferably ACII with at least 3 years experience working for an Insurance Company or Lloyd's dealing with Insurance brokers.  
You will be fully computer literate and able to work under pressure within Contract certainty We offer an excellent package with prospects.

Please e mail CV to [martinfisher@nelsonpolicies.co.uk](mailto:martinfisher@nelsonpolicies.co.uk) or post to Martin Fisher, Nelson Policies, Nelson House, 35 Station Street, Sittingbourne ME10 3DU  
No agencies please

**SALES CONSULTANT** (Location Tonbridge)

Following our successful store opening in 2006, we will shortly be opening our second store in Tonbridge. We specialize in selling Beds, Bedframes, Mattresses and Futons and are looking for an outgoing, friendly person who can learn quickly.

This will be a full or part-time position. Up to 40 hours a week working 5 out of 7 days.  
£12,000-£14,000 P.A + Commission

**Please send your CV to:** - David Cheeseman, The County Bed Company, 133 High Street, Strood, Kent, ME2 4TJ  
**Tel:** 01634 722228 **Fax:** 01634 722235  
**Email:** [contactus@thecountybedcompany.com](mailto:contactus@thecountybedcompany.com)  
**Closing Date:** 24th December 2007

The County Bed Company.

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## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Hi-tech crime is given low priority, says forum

BUSINESS leaders in computer security have criticised the Government's efforts to tackle online crime.

Members of the Corporate IT Forum, a body of information technology experts, have complained that, since a Government reshuffle of police units, e-crime against companies has been on the increase.

Since the National High Tech Crime Unit was incorporated into the Serious Organised Crime Unit in 2006, local police forces have been given the job of dealing with complex online crimes – a task that security experts say they are under-trained and under resourced to deal with.

David Roberts, chief executive of the Corporate IT Forum, said the resources allocated by the Home Office to tackle electronic crimes were not sufficient.

"It's a practical nonsense," said Mr Roberts.

"You can imagine the response an IT officer would get reporting a complex attack at their local police station – how is your local PC going to cope?"

"It's a damning indictment of how little the Home Office understands 21st-century hi-tech crime."

The criticism comes after a series of security breaches involving Government information systems, the most serious of which was the loss by HM Revenue and Customs of computer disks containing the personal details about 25 million child benefit claimants.

### Wheels on the bus set to keep going round

BUS company Stagecoach, which operates services across the county, has reported a nine per cent increase its half-year profits and says that the long-term future for public transport prospects remain positive.

Pre-tax profits rose to £84.6m in the six months to October 31, with revenues up to £821m.

Stagecoach said increasing car congestion and a growing focus on environmental issues would help to attract more passengers to its services, which also include trains.

The company said it planned to spend £71m on 584 new buses across the UK in the immediate future.

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A lifelong passion for chocolate led Kate Blyth to open up her own shop

# Poor are victims of exploitation

By NICK AMES

ENERGY companies are exploiting some of society's poorest people, according to an industry watchdog – which has accused them of being "morally bankrupt".

Customers with pre-payment meters are paying hundreds of pounds each year more than those with access to cheaper tariffs.

The meters are most frequently used by people who do not have a bank account and can incur costs of more than £300 above the normal annual rates for electricity and gas.

Meanwhile, those who can pay by direct debit can save almost £200 a year on set fees, says Energywatch.

Chief executive Allan Asher said: "That they should ramp up the rates and exploit those with no access to alternative payment methods is morally bankrupt."

Industry regulator Ofgem said companies looked to install the meters when a customer had problems paying bills.

They are most common in rented accommodation and nationally there are 3.5 million electricity meters and 2.2 million gas ones.

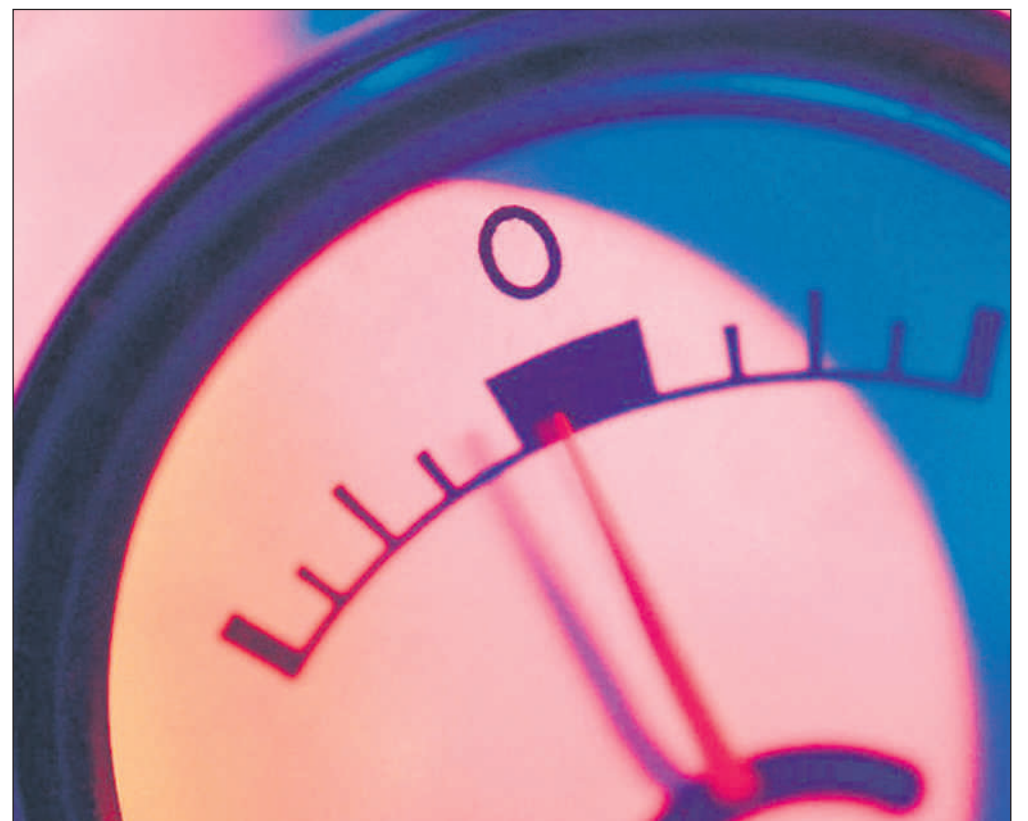
Energywatch has also discovered the numbers being installed are soaring year by year, with some 580,000 new ones set up last year.

The group claims the industry is making close to £300 million a year in revenue from customers on the pre-payment meters.

Recent figures reveal that between 2003 and 2006 gas bills rose by a staggering 94 per cent and electricity costs by 60 per cent.

Last year saw the average home charges top £1,000 for the first time.

Mr Asher said: "Consumers without internet or banking facilities are excluded from better deals. These figures show that the welcome actions by some suppliers to combat fuel



**EXPENSIVE:** Pre-pay meters are said to be costing users up to £300 a year more than regular energy customers

poverty are offset by the extra costs and poorer service inflicted on those forced into prepayment charges.

"Another industry where the poor are exploited is the personal credit market, where poorer people are forced to pay much higher rates of interest. Energy companies, who are providing essential-for-life services, should take no comfort from such a comparison."

But the body representing suppliers defended the use of the meters saying they gave cus-

tomers more control over the amount of energy they use.

Duncan Sedgwick, chief executive of the Energy Retail Association, said equalising tariffs would be "a blunt instrument to tackle a much more complex issue".

He claimed the real issue was how best to look after the interests of poor and vulnerable consumers, and a raft of measures were in place to do this, including grants for free insulation and financial help for those in debt.



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## Valence suffer seventh defeat

THREE goals by Folkestone Optimist Hockey team proved too much for Sutton Valence men's 1st XI as they slumped to their seventh defeat of the season.

Valence have now lost two games on the bounce, after a 4-2 loss last time out against Eastbourne and could only score a consolation goal in a 3-1 defeat on Saturday.

The result leaves Valence in ninth place in the Kent Sussex Regional League, just four points adrift of fourth place.

The team now has a break before they face Herne Bay when the league reconvenes on January 5.

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Action from an exciting clash for the Invicta Dynamos at Gillingham Ice Rink

## Dani hopes to Master Dubai

GOLF ace Dani Masters begins the final event of a successful season tomorrow at the Dubai Ladies Masters.

The 24-year-old finished in a share of 32nd place last weekend at the penultimate tournament of the year in Bangalore, India.

And now she has an eye on a good finish at the Emirates Golf Club to claim a share of the 500,000 prize fund, which could lift her into the top 30 on the Ladies European Tour money list.

She said: "I'm really looking forward to the Dubai tournament, I know the course after playing there last year and the facilities are fantastic. It is a really nice trip to finish the season."

Wherever she finishes in Dubai, the Maidstone-based golfer has enjoyed more success than her debut season last year.

After the tournament, Masters plans to spend Christmas at home with family before heading to Australia next month for the start of the 2008 season.



**DISTRAUGHT:** Stefan Davis lost out in the British Rally Championship after a catalogue of errors which left him heartbroken after narrowly losing out on the title in his debut season

# Rally star's devastation after string of mix-ups

ORGANISERS of the Wales Rally GB have told of their "regret" at a mix-up which cost driver Stefan Davis the British Rally Championship Super 1600 title.

Rally star Davis was left heartbroken last weekend after narrowly losing the title by two minutes.

Davis went into the final round of the series in pole position, with just the gruelling 230 miles of the Wales Rally GB to finish, a result which would have seen him claim the title in his debut season.

However, after a sequence of unfortunate events during the three-day rally, the Maidstone-based driver lost out after arriving at the last stage late, due to a misunderstanding with officials at the end of the penultimate stage.

The mix-up with officials was just one of a catalogue of errors for the Kent racer, after co-driver Pat Cooper was forced to pull out before the meeting which left Davis without an experienced navigator.

As a result, Davis had to call on rookie Neil Foulkes to lend a hand but his inexperience in never having written pace notes, meant Davis had to drive the first stage 'blind.'

His Ford Puma then suffered a suspension failure and he and his stand-in co-driver had to fix it whilst in competition.

Davis made it to the end of the stage just

## RALLY RACING

■ BY TOM HOWARD

before the time limit, but an argument with officials over whether he had finished in time, meant he was not back on the road for about three minutes, which proved costly.

After finally receiving a time from the officials, Davis rushed to the final stage only to miss the start time by two minutes.

It meant he could not compete in the last stage, but organisers gave an estimated time and classified him as finishing – a result that was not good enough to claim the title.

A distraught Davis said: "It hurt to lose the title by marshals who didn't know what they were doing after coming so close to securing it in my debut season. It ripped my heart out."

According to the 28 year-old, he was offered a letter of apology from the officials due to the error, but officials from the Wales Rally GB deny this.

He said: "The letter would look a bit out of place in my trophy cabinet. Without this success I will really struggle to encourage backing for 2008 and my short-lived career will be over."

A spokesman for Wales Rally GB told Yourmaidstone the situation could have been handled differently.

He said: "We regret what has happened to Stefan – he is a great rally driver and has real

potential. It was questionable whether Davis arrived at the check-in after the penultimate stage late. What his co-driver, who is in charge of the time keeping, should have done was phone rally head quarters immediately and the problem would have been resolved. Instead, we classified him as a finisher in the rally and gave him an estimated time for the last stage without any time penalties, but of course this would not have been as good as the time he would have set."

The final result meant Davis was classified 21st, but lost the title to eventual winner Darren Gass from Northern Ireland by a mere two points. However, despite this devastating blow, Davis never dreamed he would be in title contention in his first year in the championship. He also believes the experience can only stand him in good stead for the event next year.

He said: "Competing in the Wales Rally GB was a great experience. It is a tough event and even tougher without any pace notes. The British Championship is a hard series but hopefully I can use the experience for next year and reap the benefits. Now I have had a taste for the title I definitely want to secure it soon."

As for next season, Davis hopes he can attract investors so he can have another assault on the Super 1600 title next year.

He said: "At the moment, I am ringing round various people in the hope they will back me so I can compete in the championship next season."

## Mustangs drive Dover to defeat

### RUGBY

**Maidstone Mustangs 43  
Dover 2nds 0**

THE Mote was the venue for another convincing win for Maidstone Mustangs, as they put seven tries past Dover 2nds to maintain their unbeaten run in the Kent Invicta League.

With the first team not playing last weekend, many Mustang players saw this as a chance to get noticed by the first team, who are back in league action in January.

After being put under pressure by Dover in the opening minutes, Maidstone counter-attacked through scrum-half James Ferris. His pass found winger Chris Leggatt and he evaded the Dover defenders to score under the posts.

The home side scored a second

try shortly after when Ferris tapped a penalty and passed to hooker and captain Nick East who he charged over the line.

Dover tried to respond but their attacks were thwarted by a strong Maidstone defence.

Maidstone increased their lead to 21-0 at the break following a second try from Leggatt. He received the ball in a flowing move following a kicked clearance from their 22

and skipped around the advancing defenders to score in the corner.

In the second half, the onslaught continued, full back Martin Arnold sprinted past the opposition defenders and scored in the corner.

The Mustangs went over the Dover line once again through Josh Pankhurst to increase the lead even further.

Maidstone sealed the game with two more tries as Dover bowed to the inevitable victory. The extra class proved decisive in the victory and many of the side could be rewarded by a first team outing next year.

The Mustangs are back in action on Saturday, when they face Tonbridge Juddians 2nds at the Mote.



**DOMINATE:** Maidstone Mustangs dominate proceedings with a seven try haul against Dover



# Striker crisis after shock departure

## FOOTBALL

BY TOM HOWARD

MAIDSTONE United boss Alan Walker is disappointed that in-form striker Andy Martin has left the club to join Ryman Division One South side Leatherhead.

News broke of Martin's shock departure last Friday and he now leaves the Stones with a striker problem, with only three recognised forwards on the club's books.

Martin joined Maidstone United during the summer from Tonbridge Angels and has been heavily involved in the club's rise up the Ryman Premier League. He has scored four league goals, including the crucial winner in the Stones' 4-3 win at Margate last month. Martin was lured away from the club by an offer of more money and leaving the club during an injury crisis.

The Stones have now lost two strikers in a month following the departure of fans' favourite Luis Cumbers.

Manager Walker said: "I am very disappointed. We stuck by Andy during his tough times at the club and we hoped he would show us more loyalty. He leaves us with next-to-no players due to a number of injuries that have affected some of our key men."

However, Maidstone have managed to acquire the services of Blue Square South 18-year-old striker Steffan Gaisie for a month. The Bishop Stortford striker has scored once this season in a 6-2 win against Hampton & Richmond Borough.

Walker added: "He will bring pace to the front line. Pace is very important at this level, as we saw when we had Cumbers up front. His style of play will compliment the way Lynden Rowland performs in the attack."

Maidstone United will be in league action at Bourne Park this Saturday against Hastings United.



Picture STEVE TERRELL

• Email sports@kosmedia.co.uk

DEPARTED: Andy Martin has left Maidstone United. He will be remembered for scoring the winner in a 4-3 win at Margate

# Bulls bow out after proud Dubai display

IN THEIR first ever international tournament Aylesford Bulls ladies' squad managed to reach the quarter-finals of the prestigious Dubai Sevens competition last week.

Michelle Mayhew, captain of the first XV, took charge of the squad in the Middle-East after receiving an invitation to enter the event. The Kent side managed to overcome teams including premiership rugby players on their way to the quarter-finals in front of a 32,000 capacity crowd at the Dubai Exiles Stadium.

The tournament is one of the most famous on the sevens calendar, with teams from all over the world competing. The men's event was dominated by a strong New Zealand side, who overcame Fiji in the final.

In the first pool match, the Bulls were up against Arabian Gulf and were only beaten 22-7. Their next match was a must-win game to avoid going home early. They were up against a team called Moody Cows, who are a mixture of

## RUGBY

ex-England Internationals, Saracens and Harlequin players. The team have won the competition in the past.

The Bulls produced an excellent performance to beat the side of premiership players, without them even scoring a point in a 22-0 thrashing.

However, in the quarter-finals they were given a much stronger test in the shape of national sevens and tens champions Richmond. Aylesford gave it their all but lost 37-0 to a better side on the day.

Mayhew said: "We did very well to get to the quarter-finals and to beat Moody Cows the way we did was a brilliant performance, considering the amount of premiership players in their squad. We hope to take a men's team to the tournament next year, so they too can experience the competition."



Picture MARTYN WATSON

HEADS HELD HIGH: Aylesford Bulls Ladies battle hard after reaching the quarter-finals in Dubai

yourmaidstone

SPORT IN BRIEF

## Win at Richmond puts Maidstone back on form

AFTER a disappointing 5-4 defeat against Purley Walcountians last week, Maidstone Hockey Club's men's 1st XI got back to winning ways with a 5-2 victory against Richmond.

The London side are a place above Maidstone in the South Hockey League and the result now closes the gap between the two teams to just a point.

Maidstone will hope to continue their form when the league continues after a winter break on January 12, against Staines.

## Disabled football on its way to adult league

MAIDSTONE Raiders PAN disability football team have made another step closer to competing in an adult disability football league.

Manager John Harvey and his team have now assembled a squad of nine players and after Christmas will begin training on a regular basis at the Astor of Hever School.

Harvey will travel to Soho Square to meet the FA's new football development officer today, to discuss the possibility of setting up Kent's first adult disability football league.

## Bearsted ready to battle Milton to climb league

FOLLOWING the postponement of their game against Rusthall last week, Bearsted will hope to secure their fifth win of the season against Milton Athletic this Saturday.

The Kent County Premier League outfit have had a tough start to the season with 11 defeats, which has placed them close to the relegation zone.

However, a win against Milton Athletic who have lost just six games this season, would see them rise to ninth in the league.

## Cross country champs hoping to defend title

ATHLETES from Medway & Maidstone AC will hope to defend their Kent County Cross Country Championships when the event begins on January 5.

Defending champions Michael Coleman and Jenni Periera will hope to impress at the Detling Showground course, one of their home events.

There will be ten races covering all age groups from under-13s onwards, and runners from across the county will be competing. Supporters are welcome.

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Gills boss Mark Stimson outlines his plans for January transfers



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